REMEMBERING NANCY BUTLER, 10 | HOLIDAY LIFE, 23 | SLICE OF LIFE, 46

January 2017 • TurleyCT.com
A product of TurleyCT Community Publications
VOLUME 3, EDITION 4

Happy Holidays from

glastonbury LIFE

Valid Now through December 31st

$10 off*

Your next purchase of $50 or more of regular priced merchandise

Hurry In, Offer Valid Now through December 31st

ACE HARDWARE & RENTAL

***Exclusions:** Excludes sale items, gift cards, power tools, Benjamin Moore Paints & Stains, power equipment, lumber, small appliances, in-store services, ice melting products, grills, fuels, fireplaces or stoves. Cannot be combined with any other offer. One per customer. Coupon void if copied. More restrictions may apply, please see store for details.

DECEMBER RED HOT BUYS

Now through December 31

YETI

$29.99 Colster Can Insulator 8435075

$29.99 Rambler 20 oz. Tumbler 8434961

$39.99 Rambler 30 oz. Tumbler 8435091

KATZ ACE HARDWARE & RENTAL

Benjamin Moore

Residential Customer
ECR-WSS

TurleyCT Community Publications
540 Hopmeadow St.
Simsbury, CT 06070

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PALMER, MA
PERMIT #22

HARRY FINER
Sales Vice President
Exceptional Properties Specialist

860.882.4911
harry.finer@raveis.com
harryfiner.raveis.com

THE FINER TEAM IN REAL ESTATE

RENEE MEUSE

ALLISON PAGLIUGHI

HARSHAL PATEL

JOE ASHMORE

ROY WRENN

HELEN GU

GLASTONBURY'S #1 RENTAL AGENT 2016

Sold Properties 2016

BUYING OR SELLING? CALL FINER FIRST!

121 Tryon Street, S. Glastonbury

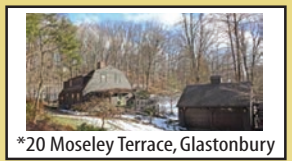
5 Southpond Rd., S. Glastonbury

60 Pallisades Terrace, Glastonbury

44 Dogwood Lane, Glastonbury

16 Ruff Circle, Glastonbury

48 Marilyn Drive, Glastonbury


*20 Moseley Terrace, Glastonbury

23 Margaret Lane, Glastonbury

*187 Sunset Drive, Glastonbury

27 Cricket Lane, Glastonbury

15 Williams Glen Way, Glastonbury

47 Delmar Road, Glastonbury

20 Southgate Drive, S. Glastonbury

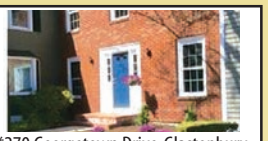
87 Overshot Drive, S. Glastonbury

30 Dutton Place Way, Glastonbury

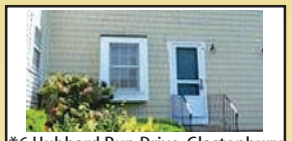
796 Hopewell Road, S. Glastonbury

*10 Knollwood Drive, Glastonbury

*55 Three Mile Road, Glastonbury


*270 Georgetown Drive, Glastonbury

*28 Carter Lane, Glastonbury


*6 Hubbard Run Drive, Glastonbury

*128 Hollister Way, Glastonbury

*107 Matson Hill Road, S. Glastonbury

*271 Woodhaven Drive, Glastonbury

407 Griswold Street, Glastonbury

1727/1729 Main St., Glastonbury

19 Quail Run, Berlin

339 Worthington Ridge, Berlin

*18 Bittersweet Lane, Berlin

223 Pickerel Lake Road, Colchester

40 Felicia Baber Road, Colchester

*148 Skyview, Cromwell

149 Naubuc Avenue, E. Hartford

66 Woodycrest Drive, E. Hartford

*13 North Hollow, East Hampton

235 Middle Haddam Road, E. Hampton

171 Injun Hollow Road, Haddam

*34 Chittenden Road, Hebron

40 Hillcrest Drive, Hebron

37 Cedar Ridge Road, Hebron

*12 Mill Landing, Hebron

47 Lake Street, Hebron

29 Sunset, Lebanon

*394 Deepwood Drive, Lebanon

33 Sunset Drive, Lebanon

*130 Tufts, Manchester

*208 Woodland Street, Manchester

*96 Elvree Street, Manchester

227 McKee Street, Manchester

71 Nina's Way, Manchester

*5 Steele Farm Drive, Manchester

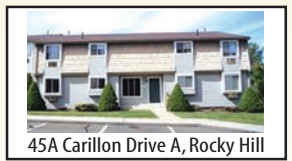
51 Delmont Street, Manchester

*139 Appletree Lane, Portland

4 Mello Drive, Preston

49C Brookwood Drive, Rocky Hill

*342 France Street, Rocky Hill


45A Carillon Drive A, Rocky Hill

229 Old Farm Road, South Windsor

*121 Beelzebub Road, South Windsor

*376 Dunfrey, Windsor

AGENTS:
Join The Finer Team in Real Estate.
Call 860-882-4911

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE
The Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company in the Northeast
218 New London Turnpike | Glastonbury | CT 06033

Call Today About our No Cost Staging Program!
Call 860-882-4911
*Properties with a * are co-brokered sales*

glastonbury LIFE

January 2017
Read online: TurleyCT.com

540 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
t 860-651-4700
TurleyCT.com

CORRECTIONS

The captions for the photos on page 18 in our November issue were incorrect. Chad P. Yonker was on the left, and Neil Scranton was on the right.

The name of Chris George's daughter, Rosalind, was misspelled on page 31 in our November issue.

Brian Ambrose took the cover photo for our December issue.

ON THE COVER

Henry Okun watches plows on Main Street from his family's front yard in this photo provided by local photographer Lynn Damon to Glastonbury LIFE to help us wish our readers a happy holiday season.

Courtesy photo

4 Mission to Malawi
13 Two decades of service
16 Making connections
18 New church opens
31 Calendar
32 Event spotlight
33 A new leash on LIFE
34 News roundup
35 Note from Nancy
37 Tolerance is a virtue
39 People notes
40 Business notes
43 Helping special needs students

KLOTER FARMS

The next generation of furniture shopping ***starts right here.***

solid wood • american made • custom
handcrafted • heirloom quality furniture

KloterFarms.com 216 West Rd, Ellington CT **860-871-1048**
FREE DELIVERY in CT, MA, RI *$1500 min., extra charge for Cape Cod, MA.*

Simon G.

Your Holiday,
Your Style.

Sterling Jewelers
965 Silas Deane Highway ~ Wethersfield, CT 06109
ShopSterlingJewelers.com
(860) 529-1187

MP1795 / ME1671 / MR2630

Photo courtesy of Judy Benton

Judy Benton (center left) and Winona Zimberlin (center right) recently visited Malawi as part of a mission with the Rev. Dick Allen.

Making God smile

Local volunteers on a mission in Malawi

by Mara Dresner
Staff Writer

While many people would be hard-pressed to find Malawi on a map, for Rev. Dick Allen, senior minister at Congregational Church in South Glastonbury, visiting the country in the Great Rift Valley of Central Africa was a homecoming of sorts.

"I was a Peace Corps Volunteer there from 1969 to 1971," he said. "Over the years, South Congregational Church has formed several partnerships with ministries in Malawi. We support an orphanage, an HIV/AIDS ministry and several schools. This mission trip was for us to visit all our partners and to learn life lessons from them. I have been taking small groups from my church to Malawi for a few years now. I am deeply moved by African communities where people have next to nothing in personal wealth, but have a deep faith and a contagious joy. I simply find this to be food for my soul. Sharing this joy with church members makes it even more profound."

Allen, along with Judy Benton, Winona Zimberlin and Leslie Cayer Ohta, made the journey to Malawi, a nation about the size of Pennsylvania, early in the fall.

"We landed in Lilongwe, Malawi's capital, and drove right to St. Mary's Orphanage in a village called Chezi," Allen said. "We spent three meaningful days playing with children, listening to children sing and breaking bread with dedicated Catholic Sisters from India, Spain, Colombia and Malawi. Then, we headed to Salima, my Peace Corps town. Twenty kilometers from Lake Malawi, Salima has bustling schools, an outdoor market, a soccer pitch and lots of commerce."

Accommodations were basic.

"We stayed at the Mai Tsalani Motel, a bed and breakfast place that charges $8 for a night and meal. I know the owners well. Each day began with a bowl of porridge made from corn flour and a cup of tea. Occasionally, we enriched the meal with a banana," Allen said. "Each day held an adventure of its own. We'd visit a school, chat with the principal, sit in on classes, and notice ways we might help. On some days we were lunch guests in homes of villagers who had been my high school students in the 1960s. We'd feast on nsima, corn flour boiled to a mashed potato consistency, pumpkin leaves, and often a piece of fish or chicken or goat meat. Always, there was fresh fruit. We walked a lot and encountered folks on their way to the market. Being a Chichewa speaker, I was able to keep us from getting totally lost."

Allen has been returning to his Peace Corps town since 1993, when he visited while on a sabbatical.

"On that occasion, I realized how much the Malawian people meant to me and how much I needed to stay connected to that culture where I am so alive spiritually, emotionally, and in every way. It was there that I felt the 'call' to ministry," he said. "I've been back many times, often with family members. But lately I've chosen to take church members. I want people to experience the joy that Malawians exude in spite of the extreme poverty."

A severe drought in Malawi has lowered the water level in Lake Malawi and affected the hydroelectric power plant.

Living without electricity or running water for half the time was one of the biggest challenges for Winona Zimberlin, an attorney with Zimberlin Law, LLC, in Manchester.

It was Zimberlin's first trip to the area. She was drawn to the adventure of the mission and by the opportunity for a first-hand look for the organizations the church helps support.

She enjoyed visiting the Malawi schools

"The students impressed me. They were eager to learn and paying attention. I was moved by their dedication in the face of very few school supplies and the difficulty of coming up with school fees. How were the children the same? They loved to play after school, stopping at the local store and buying soda," she said.

Zimberlin said she was struck by the friendliness of the people.

"I felt the sense of community at the village well, a meeting place for adults and children. In Malawi, everyone knows their neighbors. Not like here."

The group was able to have a number of extraordinary interactions.

"One day, we visited the village of the Chagwa Family. Their village lies beyond a baobab forest and across the Lilongwe River. We sat on grass mats as everyone in the village sang spirited songs in a call-response mode," Allen said. "Mrs. Chagwa, blind, and Mr. Chagwa, lame, told us many stories. Their son, Hamiton, is the first from his village to finish high school and is now in college. He showed us every homework assignment and every test he had ever turned in. This village overlooks the incredibly beautiful Great Rift Valley Escarpment. We were awed by the beauty and the simplicity," Allen said. "Another day we spent with SAMALA, the HIV/AIDS agency whose mission is to halt the spread of this disease. South Church makes micro-loans through this agency so that women can start legitimate businesses. We sat in on their support group and listened intently to their stories. Each has moved from selling her body to selling scones or fish or salt or goats. Each is finding life anew. And they support each other as sisters. We were deeply moved by their stories of hope and faith."

On another day, the group was walking through a village when they stopped to greet an elder woman who was chopping a tree stump for firewood.

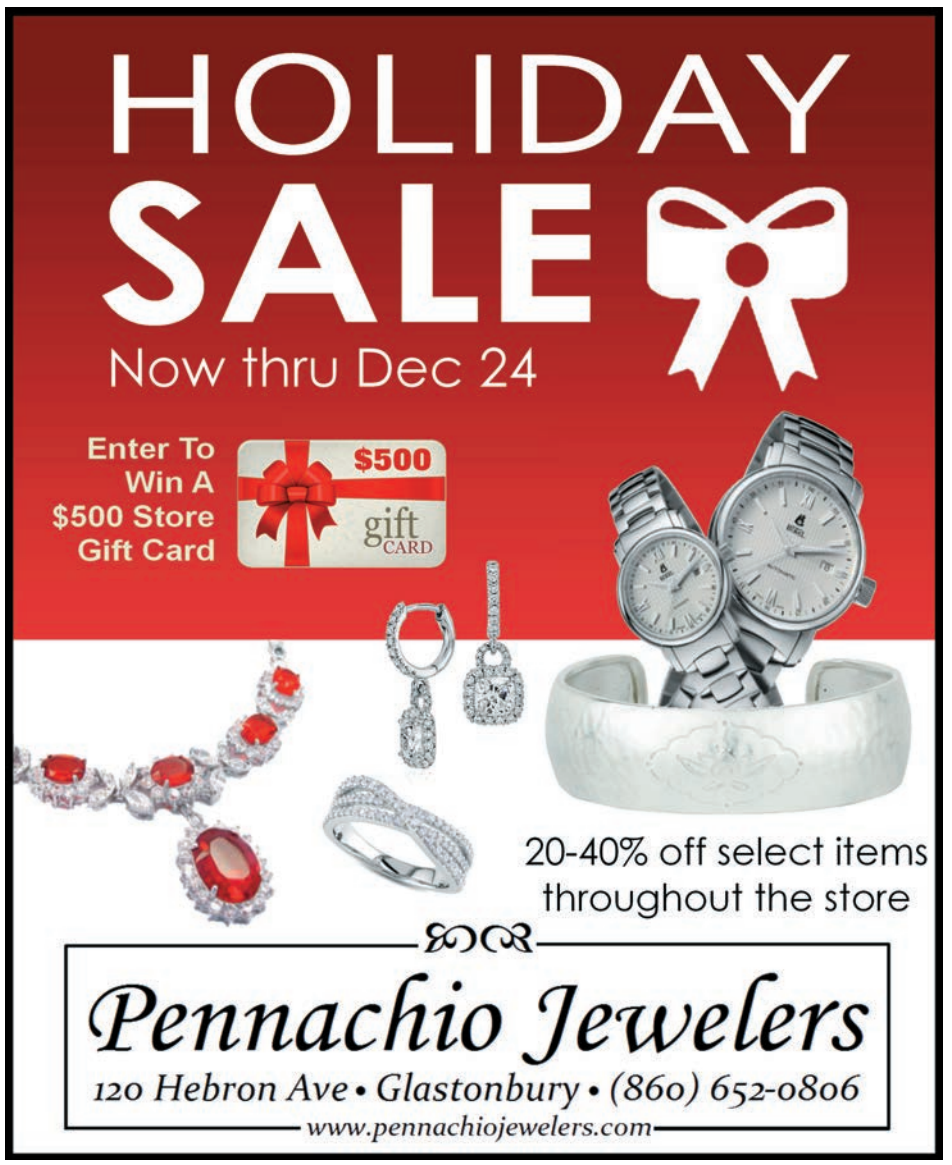
"We took turns with the axe and recruited a young man to complete the task. Often stopping at a village well where everyone comes for water and chatter, we were mesmerized by mothers carrying children on their backs, men and women carrying huge loads of firewood on the heads, and children frolicking in the dust," Allen said.

It doesn't mean the trip was one kumbaya moment after another.

"Without exception, the people I met were warm, open, friendly, generous and hospitable. However, it was also unsettling to have to accept the fact that at least in part their attitude was based upon their perception that I was in a position to help them financially. The level of poverty and degree of corruption was even greater than I expected," said Leslie Cayer Ohta, a retired U.S. Department of Justice attorney.

She had several reasons for wanting to go on the trip.

"I was interested in learning more about the human rights conditions in Malawi and in determining if South Church's financial support was deserved, appropriate, worthwhile and used for the purposes



'Tis the season for a new home!
SOLD
Julia Rosner • 860-508-3636
1 Glastonbury Coldwell Banker Realtor
Julia.Rosner@cbmoves.com
NEW LISTING!
Glastonbury - $464,900
Well-maintained 4 BR, 2.2 BA Colonial in Nayaug district. Gourmet kitchen with a gas stove, granite, SS appliances & island w/ breakfast bar. Cathedral ceilings in MBR & LR. Expansive deck overlooks large level yard w/ wooded view. HW floors, new roof, natural gas, 1st floor laundry, central vac, security sys. & finished walk-out LL.
BUILT IN 2010!
Glastonbury - $619,900
Custom 4 BR, 3.1 BA Colonial filled w/ upgrades on cul-de-sac backing to conservation land. Hardwood throughout & chef's kitchen w/ island, SS & gas range. FR w/ gas FP & wet bar! Sunroom opens to trex deck. Natural gas, oversized 3-car garage, irr. sys., 2nd floor laundry & professional landscaping!
IN-TOWN LOCATION!
Glastonbury - $235,000
Charming 3 BR, 2 BA Cape right off Main Street. 2 car garage, finished LL, HW floors, 2 fireplaces, wring for generator & Kloter Farm shed. Professional landscaping on level lot. Public water & sewer and natural gas! Sanyo AC & heat system w/4 head units. Close to shopping & highway access. Newer roof, windows, driveway & more!
STUNNING!
Glastonbury - $799,900
Exquisite 4 BR, 5.2 BA, 5,312 sq. ft. home on 2 private acres in Balmoral neighborhood. Chef's kitchen w/ center island, breakfast bar & double ovens. Master Suite w/ 2 walk-in closets & gas FP. Stunning millwork, all en-suite BRs, 4 FPs, study, 2nd floor bonus room, 2 staircases and finished LL w/kitchen. A rare find!
Call me for a complimentary market evaluation of your home!
COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

The Rev. Dick Allen sings the Malawi national anthem with children from St. Mary's Orphanage.

Photo courtesy of Leslie Cayer Ohta

intended," she said, adding that human rights problem include official corruption, use of excessive force by security officers, violence against women, human trafficking and child labor.

"The issue I was most interested in, given that one of the goals of the trip, from my perspective at least, was how donations from the church were being utilized, was corruption."

Ohta said she was troubled by reports of apparent corruption and dishonesty in the country's government.

She said "dishonesty" can be found at many levels.

"While in Malawi, we visited a church to hear the choir practicing for the Sunday service. We were told that the choir had made a DVD of their singing and dancing, copies of which they wanted to provide to us to bring back to the U.S. to possibly sell. The choir, however, did not have the approximately $100 necessary to pay the vendor in order for the DVDs to be made. I, therefore, gave $100 to the choirmaster with the express intention that the money be used for the purchase of the DVDs. I later learned that the donation was not [used] for its intended purpose and that the choirmaster told choir members that the money was intended for his own use, an outright and blatant lie. Through the intervention of the church's pastor, I believe, my donation was ultimately used to purchase the DVDs, some of which were given to us shortly before we left Malawi. While I hope this was an isolated incident, it is nevertheless incumbent on donors to

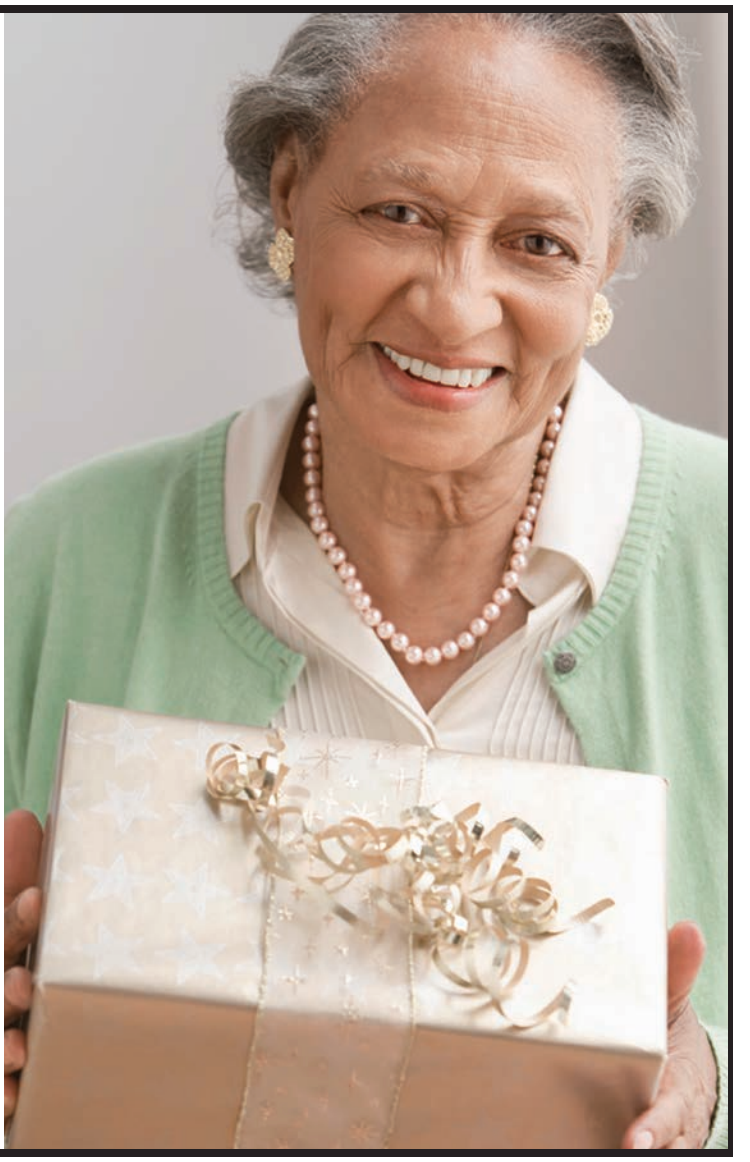
Sometimes, the best gift does not come in a box.

This year, why not give your loved one the gift of independence? Independence at Home helps people remain at home, with the support they need to stay safe and healthier. Independence at Home offers:

- **Personal care aides**
- **Homemakers/companions**
- **Service assistants**
- **Live-in caregivers**
- **Personal emergency response systems**

You can trust our care meets the highest standards with our certified nursing assistants. **And because we're part of Hartford HealthCare, we can connect you to other services, if needed. Call toll-free 888.863.2771.**

Hartford HealthCare
Independence at Home
Connect to healthier.™



Leslie Cayer Ohta celebrates with a women's support group in Malawi. They are cheering their business success, which is part of an effort to eliminate AIDS by a group that South Church supports

Photo courtesy of Judy Benton

ensure that donations are being used for their intended purposes," she said.

Ohta said that education, discrimination against people with HIV and difficulties with adopting children are also concerns.

"While in Malawi, we visited an orphanage run by a Catholic order of nuns from Spain. The facility was extremely well-organized with visibly happy, healthy and well cared for children and staff. The contrast in terms of appearance, health, education and supervision between the children who were 'fortunate' enough to be in the orphanage and the children who lived in the nearby village was stark and distressing," she said.

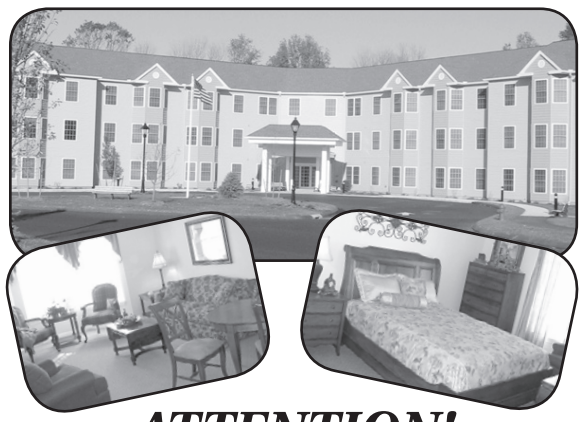
This was Ohta's first trip to Malawi, although she's traveled extensively including trips to Uganda, Rwanda, Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Egypt.

"In providing financial support to [non-governmental organizations] or individuals, it is incumbent upon the donor to ensure that the funds are being used for the purposes intended," she said.

Judy Benton, a retired community mental health agency director, went to Malawi with Allen in 2015.

"When I heard there was going to be room on this trip, I absolutely

Sage Pond Place
1725 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin
Nestled off the road in a quiet, wooded setting!



ATTENTION!
APPLY NOW!
For Active Adults 55+
Rents Include Heat & Hot Water

- Central air!
- Fully Applianced Kitchens
- Community Room
- Picnic Area with Grill
- 24 Hour Emergency Maintenance
- Intercom System
- On-Site Laundry
- Library
- Ample On-Site Parking
- Secure Building

1BR rents are $875.00, 2BR rents are $1045.00
Income restrictions apply.

(860) 828-3958
Merit Properties, Inc. Financed by CHFA

BATTISTON'S
Fabric Care Specialists
WETHERSFIELD, ROCKY HILL & GLASTONBURY
Free Pick-up and Delivery!
Dry Cleaner On Call is in Your Neighborhood!

860-604-7244

Dry Cleaner On Call Service:
- The Ultimate in Personalized Service & Convenience
- You don't have to be home
- Saves Time... Gas... & Money!
- Once you start you will LOVE IT! *I Promise!*

30% Off for 30 days.
New Dry Cleaner On Call Customers Only.

Call and ask for me **Benny Tollis**... your personal Dry Cleaner On Call today!

READ LIFE ONLINE AT www.TurleyCT.com

knew I wanted to return," she said. "What I found is that in Malawi, there is an outrageous amount of joy expressed and shared, between old friends, new friends, strangers. It was wonderful to experience that. A small example was one morning visiting with a tailor who had a tiny shop in the marketplace. [He was] sewing a school uniform while a mother and her daughter waited for it. He was clearly so happy to be doing the sewing and visiting. It was the kind of happiness that was contagious.

"It made a huge difference that Dick spoke fluent Chichewa, yet even in my limited greetings, the response was usually a huge smile, maybe laughter and a handshake, a connection. Many of Dick's old friends, now our new friends, spoke English as well, so there was much more sharing," she said.

One day the group took bicycle taxis, known as "dampas" to a village to visit with one of Allen's friends and his family.

"We got off the bikes at a forest of baobab trees, then walked across the Lilongwe River-bed, dry because there is now a serious drought. After greeting his parents we settled onto a mat under a tree, with parents, uncles, aunts, cousins, other children and adults of all ages. Our view was of the thatched huts around us, with mountains in the distance. We were in the Great Rift Valley. A brother asked Dick to tell a Bible story, which he did, with the friend translating for all. One brother began a song. Everyone, adults and children of all ages, joined in, in Chichewa. More songs followed. About seven women sang their own song, with dancing. It struck me that the women were different ages. One holding her baby on her back, some elderly, all singing and dancing together. We played hand-clapping games with the children, then watched them play their own clapping games together. That was the kind of afternoon I couldn't have imagined would happen, and didn't want to end," Benton said. "There was a lot of singing. One morning at the orphanage South Congregational helps support, children were singing to us, totally spontaneous. Their last songs were the Malawian national anthem, in Chichewa, then in English, and 'Silent Night,' in Chichewa. That brought tears to my eyes."

The Rev. Dick Allen helps chop wood on a recent mission trip to Malawi.

Photo courtesy of Judy Benton

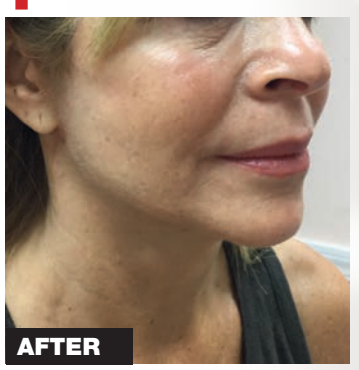
Allen said that the experiences of the trip have stayed with him.

"If there are obvious lessons to bring home to Glastonbury, they would be to live more simply, to live into each moment, to savor relationships, maybe to learn a new language and to be generous with hospitality," Allen said. "The Malawians love to feed you when you come for a visit. Relationships built around a home-cooked meal are sacred. We know this already, but in the village where much effort is spent in pumping water from a well, gathering kindling wood from the forest, grinding maize at the mill, and stirring stew on an open fire brings everyone together in a way that makes God smile." **GL**

Ring in the New Year with a new look

Dr. Robert Langdon can refresh your look and remove years from your appearance with his minimal incision ExpresS-Lift facelift. Call today or visit us online to learn how the Langdon Center can help you take back years!

$500 OFF ExpresS-Lift



Unretouched ExpresS-Lift patient photos

Special promotion valid through 1/31/17, and may not be combined.
Must mention this ad to receive special. Individual results vary. Other restrictions may apply.

844.550.7826 / THE LANGDON CENTER

LangdonCenter.com
Guilford

365 gifts

Every day is a gift. A chance to chart a new course. To reach a little higher. To create an even brighter future for you and your family. Every day, anything is possible.

While you're working hard to make it happen, you can be sure we'll be at your side, helping you reach your goals.

From our family to yours, go out there and make your dreams come true.

SmithBrothers.
Be sure.

Auto & Home Insurance / High Net Worth Program / Life Insurance / Retirement Planning / Financial Planning

Smith Brothers Insurance, LLC 68 National Drive Glastonbury, CT **844-9-BeSure** TOLL FREE **SmithBrothersUSA.com**
Glastonbury CT | **Chester** CT | **Groton** CT | **Niantic** CT | **Somers** CT | **Windsor Locks** CT | **Easthampton** MA

JENKS PRODUCTIONS

Jenks Productions presents the **32nd** Annual Connecticut

BRIDAL EXPO

*New England's **LARGEST** & Most Complete **Wedding Show** with Exhibits, Live Entertainment, & Dazzling Fashion Shows*

January 7 & 8

Connecticut Convention Center
100 Columbus Blvd. • Hartford, CT

SATURDAY 11AM-5PM
SUNDAY 11AM-5PM

ADMISSION $12

Brides
REGISTER ONLINE for $2 OFF ADMISSION

HOST HOTEL
Sheraton Hartford South

HUNDREDS OF PARTICIPATING COMPANIES:

Bridal Shops • Formal Wear • Invitations • Photographers • Videographers
Florists • Caterers • Jewelers • Bands • Disc Jockeys • Entertainment
Make-Up & Hair Stylists • Travel Agents • Banquet Facilities
Hotels • Wedding Consultants • Limousine Services
Horse & Carriage Services • Gifts & More!

OTHER BRIDAL SHOWS IN:
White Plains, NY • Farmington & Wallingford, CT • West Palm Beach, FL
Worcester, Springfield, & Newton, MA • Bethlehem, PA

MEDIA SPONSORS: KISS 95-7 · FOX61 · West Hartford Magazine · we-ha.com · Hartford Courant

www.jenksproductions.com • (860) 365-5678

READ
LIFE
ONLINE AT
www.TurleyCT.com
TurleyCT
COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS

Nancy Butler founded Riverfront Family Church after attending divinity school in her 40s.

Courtesy photo

Remembering Nancy Butler

Pastor succumbs to ALS

by Mara Dresner
Staff Writer

Shortly after Thanksgiving Nancy Carroll Butler, founding pastor of Riverfront Family Church, shared a wrenching decision with her congregation.

"I have decided to go off my feeding tube and vent this week and … how should I put it … die. I knew my suffering would reach this tipping point and caring for me would become impossibly demanding," her statement said.

The statement was read by Tiffany Moyer-Washington, a founding member and part of the church's preaching team. Butler's ability to speak – like her ability to walk and swallow – was taken by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease. Butler died December 7.

"Pastor Nancy [was] really one of the most remarkable people I have ever met," said Ben Dubow the church's co-lead pastor. "The church she founded, Riverfront Family Church, totally reflects her heart and vision. A church that takes God seriously, but where people don't take themselves too seriously. A church where it is safe to take off your mask and be real and

Lighten up before the heavy snow.

Make your move to The Heights senior living community and take the worry out of winter.

Choose a spacious one- or two-bedroom apartment with all the independence of home. Or choose our assisted-living apartments with a Personal Care Attendant on duty 24/7 for a range of services. All the options you could ever want are here, including a state-of-the-art Wellness Center and indoor pool, plus priority access to a full range of health care services.

We make your move easy!

The Heights is a rental community, so there's **no buy-in or entrance fee.** Move in soon and you'll also get:

- **FREE!** First Month's Rent
- **Up to $1,000** toward a Downsizing Specialist and Moving Company Services

Come explore The Heights!

Join us for an Open House and Luncheon:

Sat., Jan. 7th,
Wed., Jan. 25th
and Sat., Feb. 11th.
Event starts at 10:45 a.m.

For more information, or to RSVP for upcoming events, call:

860-953-1201
ext 403

The Heights
Avery Heights • A Village of CHI

550 Avery Heights • Hartford, CT 06106

express doubt and anger and confusion. A church full of laughter and stories and good meals. And a church where literally everyone is welcomed and loved and valued. Regardless of your gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, cultural background or anything else, Nancy was committed to helping you discover your gifts and use them to help make earth a little bit more like heaven. Obviously we are all grieving and will miss Nancy dearly, but we do not grieve without hope. And in the midst of the mourning, we have all learned to trust Jesus even more."

Butler and her husband, Greg, were high school sweethearts. After marrying, they moved to Hong Kong, where Butler taught English and Sunday school in a refugee camp. When they returned to the States, Butler earned an M.B.A. at the University of Maryland before moving to Glastonbury.

After working in marketing, she decided to change the course of her career, applying to Yale Divinity School, taking classes at Yale and at the Hartford Seminary and becoming ordained.

Longing for the spirit of an evangelical church but with modern social values, she founded Riverfront Family Church in Hartford. It wasn't always easy. Then, early in 2015, she was diagnosed with ALS.

"When she received the ALS diagnosis a few months after I started, it never slowed her down," said Ellen Cannon, the church's executive director. "I don't think she ever took a moment to take pity on herself or lament about her situation. If anything she worked even harder to give this church a sound basis on which it could build upon once she realized the seriousness of her condition. ... She never faced a day even during her illness without a long to do list and with specific goals in mind. Losing her is a huge loss for the people of our church, as she has blessed all of us in so many ways."

Many who attend the church credit Butler with bringing them back to regular practice.

"I long to be with you every Sunday. I have no idea how it will be on the other side, but if my spirit can join you on Sunday mornings, I will!"

– Nancy Carroll Butler

"What I cannot help but keep in my heart about Pastor Nancy is how she always was so present to the uniqueness and talents and hurt of each person including those like me who came to her church after a long absence from formal religion. Riverfront Family Church, in large measure due to Nancy, became our family home. ... We are a family church, and not only Nancy, but her whole family has been a model for all of us," Rich Gruber said.

"Pastor Nancy knew how to teach and make God's words real and relevant to our daily lives. It was amazing how she let us go through her life and death experience," said Debbie Stauble, who met the Butlers when their children were in high school together.

Stauble called Butler "my friend, my pastor, who has left an indelible mark on me and the lives of countless others in and beyond our community. ... She was courageous, strong and vulnerable."

In explaining her decision to her congregation, Butler said she was "choosing compassion," adding, "I long to be with you every Sunday. I have no idea how it will be on the other side, but if my spirit can join you on Sunday mornings, I will! Riverfront, you are one of a kind. Draw your strength from your prayer closet and fulfill your calling. I love you more than words can hold." **GL**

AIRPORT
AuTo Body
ROAD
Bring Your Car Back to Life!
You have a choice when it comes to collision repair.
Our facility will restore your vehicle ... from the largest repair to the smallest dent.
80 Airport Road, Hartford
860-296-BODY
860-296-0304
airportroadautobody.com
FAMILY OWNED and OPERATED
since 1983, we strive to provide only the best quality workmanship and customer satisfaction in a professional working environment.
TESLA
Cadillac
TAKE COMFORT in knowing that Airport Road Auto Body is a specially trained Collision Repair Center that employs the latest technologies and equipment to remain OEM Certified.
Let us handle your INSURANCE CLAIM from START to FINISH.
GOLD CLASS I-CAR
Mercedes-Benz
RANGE ROVER
JAGUAR
A top of the line collision repair facility servicing all models.
Specializing in BMW, Mercedes, Mini, Cadillac, Jaguar, VW & Range Rover
Certified VW, JAGUAR, RANGE ROVER & TESLA

Lieutenant Mark Catania, Services Division Commander with the Glastonbury Police Department, worked for almost 16 years with Ames Department Stores.

Photo by Mara Dresner

From printing to policing

Mark Catania celebrates 20 years on Glastonbury police force

by Mara Dresner
Staff Writer

Growing up as one of eight kids in Rocky Hill, Mark Catania has strong memories of watching his father come home from work.

"My dad was a police officer for almost 25 years. He started out in Hartford and then went to Rocky Hill," Catania, a lieutenant with the Glastonbury Police Department, said. "I have very, very vivid memories of my father coming in and putting his gun belt on the refrigerator out of reach."

The family's legacy in law enforcement dates back to 1948. Three of Catania's brothers are also in law enforcement.

But Catania's path to law enforcement was anything but direct.

"I always wanted to. Then I started to work in the corporate life and the money was very good," he said of his time at the now-defunct Ames Department Stores in Rocky Hill. "As I started moving up at Ames, I thought why do I want to work weekends and holidays?"

Catania had gone to work for Ames when he was a sophomore in high school.

"I applied for a job at Ames and got hired making $2.91 cents an hour at the print shop," he said.

As part of an early school release program, he worked at Ames sorting print orders from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and on Saturday mornings. When he

Serving Glastonbury Since 2000

ADRIATIK'S
FAMILY RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA
With Mediterranean Cuisine

The Glastonbury Book TOP Restaurants 2016 Adriatik's Family Restaurant and Pizzeria

Now Serving Gluten Free Pasta

$10 OFF $50 Holiday Gift Cards

Happy Holidays and Warm Wishes from our family to yours.

$2.00 OFF ANY LARGE PIZZA Pick Up or Dine In
With this coupon. One coupon per table or per person or visit. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/30/16
Adriatik's GLAS (860)633-0599

$5.00 OFF 2 Large Pizzas
With this coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/30/16
Adriatik's GLAS (860)633-0599

$5.00 OFF ANY ORDER OVER $30.00
With this coupon. One coupon per table or per person or visit. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/30/16
Adriatik's GLAS (860)633-0599

Buy 4 Pizzas, 5th Cheese is FREE
With this coupon. One coupon per table or per person or visit. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/30/16
Adriatik's GLAS (860)633-0599

10% OFF CATERING FOR ANY OCCASION

860.633.0599
30 Welles Street, Station 35, Glastonbury
www.adriatiks.com

“It takes a special person to wear the uniform, to put the bullet-proof vest on and wear a gun to work.”

– Mark Catania

graduated from high school, he had the opportunity to stay on, working as a printing press operator.

“So I stayed there. I tried to go to [college], but I was more financially driven so didn’t stay with school. I just worked full time. I bought a couple of cars; I bought a condo,” he said.

When the printing supervisor retired, he decided to apply for that position.

“I wound up getting that job,” he said.

In 1994, he was named director of printing production.

“Without a college degree, I had 35 people reporting to me in the print shop. I had a $3.2 million budget. I did all of the hiring and discipline,” said Catania, who worked at Ames for almost 16 years.

As Ames slipped deeper into financial difficulty, Catania decided it was time to pursue another career. After years of watching family members work in various police departments, he decided that was the life he wanted.

“When I left, I was making $74,000 a year, and I took a job at the Middletown Police Department, making $26,000. It was like a 75 percent cut in pay,” he said.

The year before leaving Ames, he worked part-time as a community service officer in Glastonbury, and tested for a number of towns before he was hired in Middletown.

He attended the police academy in Meriden for 17 weeks and walked the beat in the north end of Middletown from mid-1995 through November 1996.

“I always wanted to come back here. I really the enjoyed the town when I was here part time,” he said. “I applied here in November 1996 and wound up getting a job.”

In the 20 years Catania’s been with the Glastonbury police department, he’s held a variety of positions, including as a youth officer and in traffic. He’s been promoted several times and was named Glastonbury Police Officer of the Year in 2002.

He’s a lieutenant in the services division, where he serves as services commander, which includes budgets, training, records, accreditation and other responsibilities.

“It makes me more well-rounded,” he said.

And while school wasn’t for him years ago, he’s completed several police training programs including a course in motor vehicle accident reconstruction, and most recently, a 400-hour Command Officer Development Course the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville held in Connecticut, in August.

He also decided to go back to school to earn his associate’s degree.

“I knew I needed it to advance,” he said.

He enrolled at Middlesex Community College in 2005 while working full time and graduated in 2007 with a degree with honors in criminal justice. He was also the recipient of the Sergeant George R. Dingwall Academic Achievement Award.

He took the summer off and returned to school that fall, this time to Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, where he earned his Bachelors of Science in business administration with honors in May 2009, followed by a Masters of Arts in leadership in 2012, with a 4.0 grade point average. He also was the recipient of the Richard C. Hennessey Award.

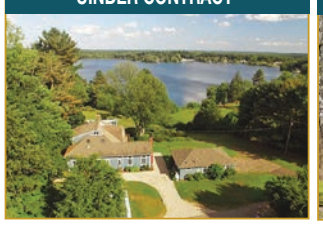
He’s known throughout the area for helping others prepare for police promotional exams.

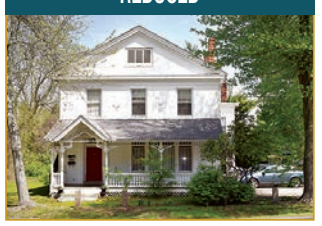
“[He’s] hard-working and goal-oriented. I am very proud of Mark’s strong desire to serve the public with passion and integrity. Mark is an excellent police officer and a great brother. Mark has a strong work ethic. He also loves to laugh and has an excellent sense of humor,” said Matthew Catania, Chief

Jeffrey Bodeau 860.463.9296
Jeffrey.Bodeau@raveis.com

UINDER CONTRACT

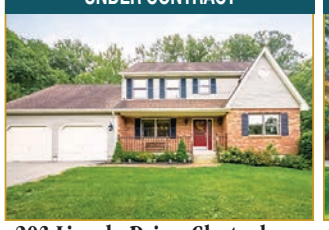
171 Great Pond Rd, S. Glastonbury
$599,900
Spectacular 4 bed colonial in sought-after neighborhood. Updated and appointed inside and out. Likely the best in the neighborhood!

UINDER CONTRACT

129 Vernon Rd, Bolton
$567,000
Own your own family compound on Bolton Lake. Property features a 2-family home, Guest Cottage, Party House, and Horse Barn. One of a kind!

REDUCED

247-249 Hubbard St, Glastonbury
$495,000
Investors take notice! 5-unit rental property with 1 & 2 bedroom units in central Glastonbury. Generates approx. $62,000 in cash flow.

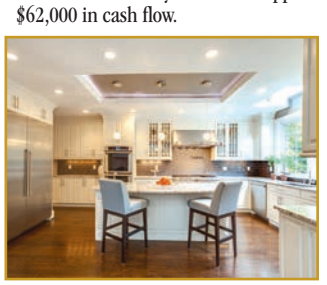
REDUCED

32 Saner Rd, Marlborough
$449,000
9’ ceilings, expansive kitchen w/ walk-in pantry, stunning moldings & trim throughout, hardwood floors, private rear lot.

UNDER CONTRACT

203 Lincoln Drive, Glastonbury
$450,000
Stunning and completely remodeled Colonial. 4 bedrooms, 3.1 baths, finished lower level. WOW!

UNDER CONTRACT

271 Woodhaven Rd, Glastonbury
$450,000
Custom Colonial appointed beyond belief including copper gutters, custom moulding throughout, gorgeous details and craftsmanship.


78 Jeremiahs Way, South Glastonbury • $984,900
Chic and truly stunning property set back on a cul-de-sac in charming SoG. Designed for entertaining this fabulous property is sure to impress even the most discerning buyer. The owners just finished a complete renovation incorporating only the finest materials. Breathtaking hardwood floors, a magnificent chef’s kitchen, scrumptious master suite highlighted with custom built-ins and a center island, three fireplaces, all en-suite bedrooms, and finished walkout lower level.

55 Accornero Lane, South Glastonbury • $1,495,000
Spectacular estate in rolling hills of SoG. Breathtaking Hartford city views. An Architectural Masterpiece with unmatched craftsmanship. Custom in-ground pool & spa, outdoor kitchen, home gym, complete Home Smart System, enviable home office, expansive gourmet kitchen with Sub-zero and Wolf appliances plus a finished walkout lower level with a bedroom suite, billiards and great room with wet bar, and a home gym.

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE
New England’s Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company

of the Plainville Police Department.

He never tried to convince his younger brother to become a police officer but is proud of the life he's chosen.

"I know that Mark is effective because he cares about his work, his colleagues and the public. He is sincere. He is affable. These traits allow him to build trust with people. He has the academic skills and the knowledge to do his job but you have to be able to get the willing compliance of your officers if you are going to succeed as a leader. People have to want to follow you or you will get nowhere. Mark has that leadership quality some refer to as a natural leader but I would suggest that it takes a lot of hard work and consistent performance to gain the trust of the public and your colleagues," Matthew Catania said.

Serving the public is what matters to Mark Catania, and he said that while he loves his job, it doesn't mean that it's always easy.

"It takes a special person to wear the uniform, to put the bullet-proof vest on and wear a gun to work. You're seeing what happens to families in times of crisis, in tough times. You're making death notifications; you have to tell someone's not coming home," he said.

Being able to work as part of a team is key.

"You have to know how to talk to people and how to reach them. We have 60 officers in this building. That's 60 different personalities; 60 different drives," he said. "We're working with three different generations. We're dealing with millennials, we're dealing with the X generation; we're dealing with the Y generation. Somehow, some way, we have to find some type of balance. We need to have the same results. Someone with a year here, someone with 10 years here, we need to be pulling the rope in the same direction. It needs to be a team effort. This is not a job for someone with their own agenda. It's teamwork, with the citizens and merchants and stakeholders in the town. The biggest challenge is making sure there is no self-agenda. Once that point is made, it makes the job a whole lot whole lot easier."

Catania said that the recent high-profile cases, such as police shootings, have been difficult.

Courtesy photo

Law enforcement is a family affair for the Catanias, including (left to right) Chief Matthew Catania, Plainville Police Department; Lieutenant Robert Catania, Rocky Hill Police Department; Lieutenant Mark Catania, Glastonbury Police Department; and Glenn Catania, retired, Hartford Police Department.

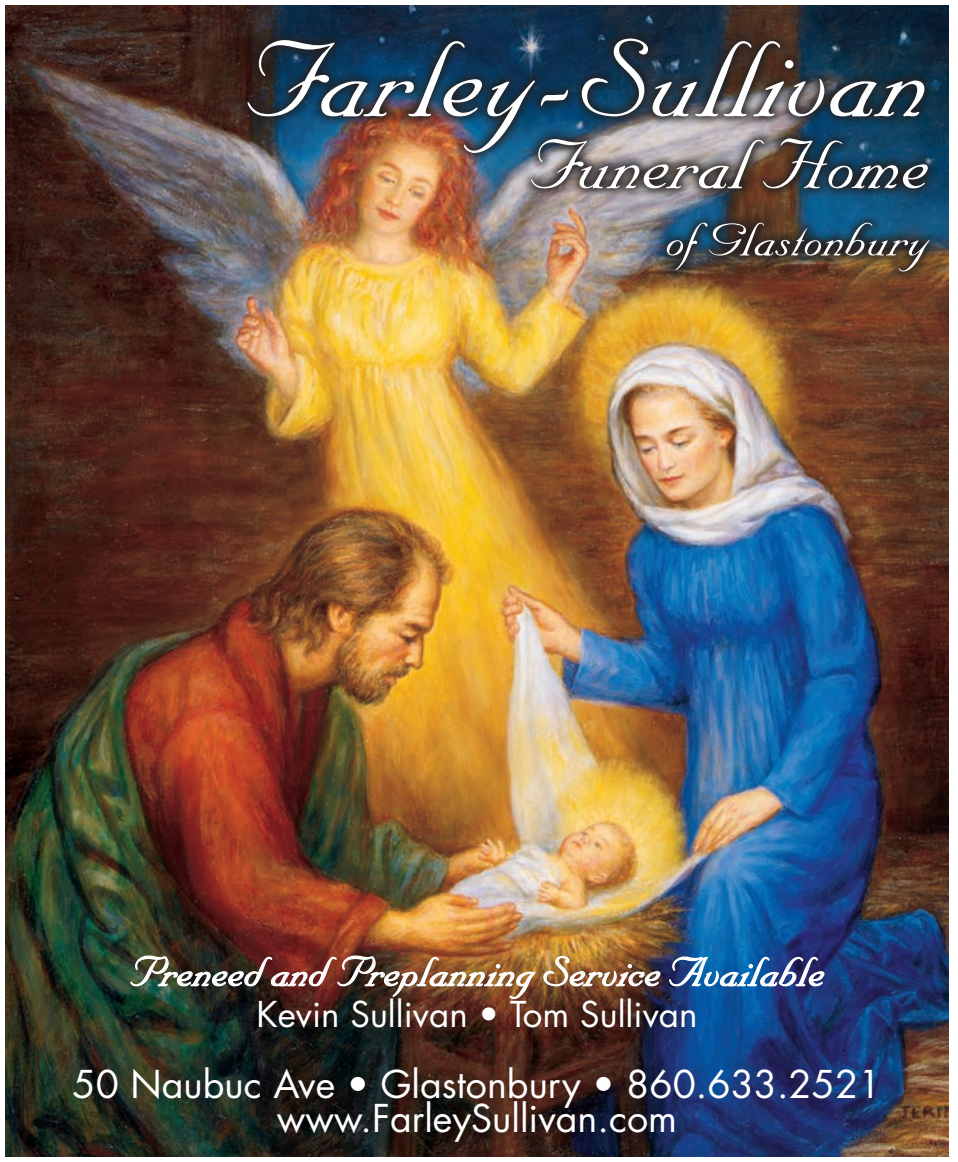
"There are some people across the country who wear this uniform that have no business wearing it. Those people get all the headlines at night, the bad issues, the bad news stories, the police officers that did things they shouldn't be doing. People wind up judging everyone else wearing a similar uniform and a similar badge. You never hear about the police officer that helps somebody. It's a very, very big challenge right now. We are judged by the few that are doing wrong rather than being judged by the people from coast to coast that get up and do the job for the right reasons," he said.

For Catania, that means "making a difference and helping people."

"It's satisfying to know you made a difference, you made an impression," he noted.

He's finishing his 20th year with the town and hopes to put in 10 more years.

"I sincerely appreciate and value the opportunity the Town of Glastonbury has given me," Catania said. "I'm glad I made transition from corporate life." **GL**



Adoptions From The Heart®
The Best is Yet to Come
Join us for a FREE informational meeting
Discover Infant Adoption
Wednesday, January 18th ❄ 6:00 pm
Glastonbury, CT
Call or Visit Us Online to Register
www.AFTH.org ❄ 860.266.5460

Jeffrey Utubor performs at the 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, "Martin, Music and the Movement"

To form a more inclusive community

MLK initiative helps residents start conversations, increase connection

by Mara Dresner
Staff Writer

Photos courtesy of Melissa Rawlins of Melissa-Katelyn Photography

While much of the nation focuses on the words of Dr. Martin Luther King each January, thanks to the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative, social justice issues are on the agenda throughout the year. An all-volunteer, non-profit organization that was formed in 2001, the initiative sponsors an annual celebration each January, as well as community conversations throughout the year that have covered topics such as Racial Inequities in the Juvenile Justice System, Implicit Bias and How it Impacts our Community, and School Diversity in Glastonbury and Greater Hartford. The group also works to increase residents' knowledge and understanding of King's philosophy and to provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community.

"An important thing we try to do is make this a more inclusive community, to try to engage people, to try to get a conversation going. We think when people get together to discuss things that are important, we'll have a better community and

the art truck®
Mobilizing Creativity

www.thearttruck.com
844-287-2789
contact@thearttruck.com

Make your child's birthday a work of art!
Celebrate on our Party Truck at your home or
at our Party Studio in Glastonbury.
Kids create personal artworks to take home and we clean up.
No mess or stress for you!
Choose from Painting, Cupcakes Chefs, Robots,
Jewelry, Masks, Photoshoot & More!

Events often include music, such as during the 2015 program where the Glastonbury High School Madrigal Singers and the Windsor High School Teens of Praise perform together.

form meaningful relationships and that's the foundation," the initiative's president, Darwin Kovacs, said.

The group originally formed to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.

"The organization wanted to make it a day on rather than a day off. We wanted to engage people, and at least getting them to think of issues important to the citizens of Glastonbury and Greater Hartford," Kovacs said.

The annual program in January has taken various forms and has brought in such name speakers as civil rights leader Diane Nash and former UN Ambassador Andrew Young This year's event will take place January 15 and will include dramatic mini-skits performed by the Looking In Theater. The theater is made up of high school students attending the Greater Hartford Magnet School of the Arts under the direction of Jonathan Gilman, a Harvard-educated playwright and director. Their performances will address social justice issues involving gender identity, racial profiling, Muslim refugees and voting rights.

"Community Conversations are designed to bring the community together to discuss issues of social justice," said Leslie Ohta, the group's vice president, and a member of the board of directors. "Through meaningful dialogue and expression, such conversations allow us to inform and be informed about the myriad of social issues which sometimes unite us or divide us. The goal is to explore and consider participants' views and opinions on social issues which impact and define us as a community in an informed and congenial environment. The goal is not necessarily to reach a consensus on social issues but to better understand the viewpoints of individuals with whom we may disagree in order that everyone feels that they belong to the community and that the community belongs to them. In short, it is imperative that as members of our community we be able to discuss candidly, openly, and without fear of ridicule or scorn those issues which may divide us along political, religious or philosophical lines. Given the current political climate, the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative is more important than ever as a mechanism to inform and energize Glastonbury residents about issues of social justice. I believe that issues involving discrimination based upon race, religion, ethnicity, political beliefs, gender, gender identity and social and economic status, health care for all, reasonable gun control measures, Medicare, women's reproductive rights, and the environment are of grave concern to us as individuals, to our county and to the world."

In addition to the Community Conversation programs, the group's activities have included sponsoring book talks for both adults and children and providing scholarships for high school students to attend programs about diversity.

Eight board members form the committee, which operates with help from an additional six to eight volunteers.

"We are always looking for volunteers. We are very small," Kovacs said. "I'd like people to attend the programs. These are important topics. Wouldn't it be nice if we could have higher attendance? All of us have something to contribute to make it a better community."

Board member Robyn Guimont became involved after a program about sex trafficking.

"I had heard about the initiative for several years, but this was the first topic that brought me out to actually attend. It was eye opening," she said. "We need to understand that Glastonbury is part of a much bigger world. By discussing issues like racism, educational inequality, sex trafficking, we have hope that we will realize that these are not just problems of the inner city, but rather issues that are happening in our 'safe' little suburb."

She believes that it is important to understand the connections between Glastonbury, Hartford and the world at large.

"It is important that we realize that we are more alike than we are different," she said. "The MLK Initiative is an opportunity to look outside the insular world of Glastonbury, to recognize and discuss how our actions affect the world around us. If we never understand our sisters and brothers, we will never be able to conquer hate." GL

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative will host a Community Conversation for 2017 January 15, at the Riverfront Community Center from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn more at glastonburyMLKci.org.

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative at a glance

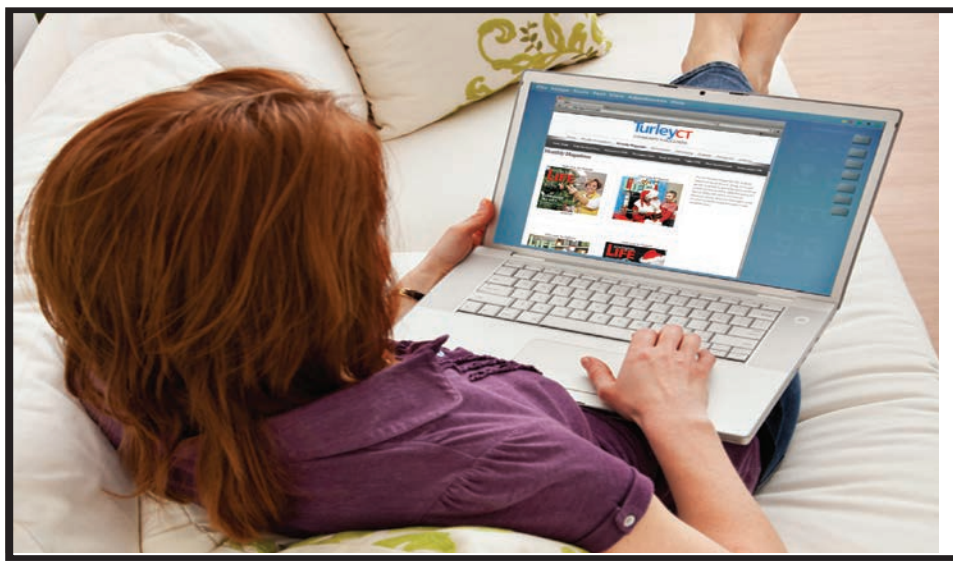
The initiative is a not for profit 501C(3) corporation whose mission is to provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community.

Its goals are:

- to increase knowledge and understanding of the life and philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to inspire others to continue his work;
- to bring the concept of inclusivity to the community;
- to engage community members in activities that foster meaningful relationships and dialogue; and
- to engage youth to support their development of community-building leadership skills.

By the numbers

- The initiative has sponsored 13 consecutive years of bringing the annual MLK Day Celebration to Glastonbury
- Five conversations on race groups
- 10 conversations on community
- 17 students sent to Anytown, a nationally recognized, award-winning leadership and social justice program for youth ages 14-18
- Five potluck dinners with conversation
- Four films followed by discussions
- Two children's book talks in partnership with Welles-Turner Memorial Library children's department
- Three book talks for adults in partnership with the Welles-Turner Memorial Library
- One book talk in partnership with the Historical Society of Glastonbury
- One Gandhi celebration
- One day of service



TurleyCT
COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS

Read all of our Community Publications online at
TurleyCT.com

The West Hartford Press • The Valley Press
Valley Life • West Hartford Life • Rocky Hill Life
Wethersfield Life • Glastonbury Life • Newington Life

Planting a church in Glastonbury

Pastor wants to spread a message of hope and joy

by Mara Dresner
Staff Writer

Photo by Mara Dresner

George and Janelle Lim moved to Glastonbury in 2015. They'd both always wanted to live in Connecticut despite not having any ties to the state.

There were few early signs that Pastor George Lim would seek a career in the ministry. Growing up in San Diego, he did sometimes go to church with neighbors. And he was a rule follower.

"I tried to stay out of trouble. I was the typical older kid. I was the good example. I have a younger brother and he was always the one getting into trouble," said Lim, who said he "didn't grow up in a church home."

He stayed on the straight and narrow until he was in his 20s, when he hit some bumps in the road.

"I really made some poor decisions. I was a rule-abiding child so I didn't have my first experience with alcohol until I was 21 years old, not because I felt I was offending God, but because that was the legal age. After that, I got into partying a lot," he recalled. "One specific night, I was up all night, partying with friends, and for some reason I thought it was a good idea to call my boss up in the morning and say, 'I quit.' I definitely made some poor decisions in that season. Being unemployed, I was really wondering, what am I doing with my life? I was really searching for answers. [Asking], when was the last time I was truly happy? Those kind of questions were really floating around at that time."

That year at Thanksgiving Lim had a life-changing conversation.

"My uncle came in and invited me to church. It was something I was open to at that time, so I started attending church with him. I committed my life to Jesus and I've really been growing in that lifestyle ever since," he said. "I really didn't become a Christian until I was 24 years old. That's where my spiritual journey started."

He attended The Rock Church in San Diego, a nondenominational megachurch founded by former NFL player Miles McPherson. In 2004, Lim met Janelle, and they both worked in the usher-greeter and worship ministry at the church. After marrying in August 2006, the couple moved to Temecula, Calif., where they served in a variety of ministries at a local Calvary Chapel.

Lim was ordained as the youth pastor in July 2010 and began attending Calvary Chapel Bible College. And while he knew what course he was on, he was unsure where the path would take him.

"I felt like God was leading me in a direction in being more prepared for the ministry," he said. "During that time, I met with one of the professors. We were talking and he asked, 'Have you ever considered something called church planting?' My response for him was, 'No, I didn't even know what that was.' I brought it home to Janelle. I brought it home and started praying on it.

"Church planting is really the hope to start a new church to reach people who are not currently attending another church or have not heard the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ," Lim explained. "We all kind of know that sometimes a church or an organization or whatever, they can kind of unintentionally become closed off to new people. People form relationships and sometimes it's difficult to break in. We're providing people the opportunity to be part of something. We provide a message of hope. We don't want them to feel intimidated. It's all new. It's everybody's first time here. I think, in a strange way, it makes people a little less uncomfortable."

Once they agreed that they should plant a church, there still was a question of where.

"It sounds ridiculous, but we look at each other and say where would we go if we were going to plant a church? We say, 'What about Connecticut?' The back story of that is when we were dating, it had randomly come out that I had always this desire to live in Connecticut. I have no family here. I had never visited here. At that time I had no friends here. It was in my heart, if you will. My wife, Janelle, said, 'me too!' That was a strange thing when we were dating to find out, that we both always

Coldwell Banker
Residential Brokerage

GLASTONBURY **$464,900**
4BR/2.2BA Meticulously maintained Col. Kit w/ gas stove, granite, SS, center isle & b'fast bar. Cathedral ceilings in MBR & LR. Lg deck overlooking lg level priv yard. HW flrs, new roof, nat gas, 1st flr lndry, c/vac, security syst & fin walk-out LL.
JULIA ROSNER 860-508-3636

GLASTONBURY **$799,900**
5BR/5.2BA in popular Balmoral nbrhd. Custom built-ins, HW floors w/ in-lays, french doors, 4 fp. Chef's kit w/ lrg cntr isle, b'fast bar, dbl ovens & 2 sinks. MBR w/ 2 walk in closets. Fin LL w/ FR, kit, exercise rm, full BA & gas fp. Lg 3 car gar.
JULIA ROSNER 860-508-3636

GLASTONBURY **$619,900**
BETTER THAN BRAND NEW! 2010 custom built 4BR/3.1BA Colonial w/ exceptional upgrades. Located in a fabulous nbrhd! Gourmet chef's kit w/ lg center isle, SS, bkfst bar. Lg FR w/ gas fp & wet bar. Sunroom w/ cathedral ceiling & sliders to Trex deck.
JULIA ROSNER 860-508-3636

GLASTONBURY **$235,000**
FABULOUS IN TOWN LOCATION! 3BR/2BA Cape w/2 car gar, fin LL, vinyl siding, HW flrs, 2 fireplaces, wiring for generator & Kloter Farm shed. Pub. water & sewer & nat gas! High-end Sanyo AC & heat system w/4 head units. Newer roof, windows & driveway.
JULIA ROSNER 860-508-3636

GLASTONBURY **$174,500**
Coveted location in this scenic complex! Private deck! Cape-style end unit w/ 1st flr BR & full bath. Lg MBR suite on 2nd level w/ walk-in closet & good eaves storage. Open flr plan w/ HW flrs in living areas & kitch. Full basement & detached garage
SUZANNEDELANY.COM 860-402-6178

Glastonbury **$289,900**
3BR/2BA Remod'd Ranch. New roof, siding & windows. New propane heating sys & c/air. New 200 AMP electrical. HW flrs thruout. Freshly painted. Kit w/ granite, subway tile backsplash, Edison lights above peninsula, bkfast bar, SS appls & custom cabs.
GINAMLAVERY.COM 860-869-2148

GLASTONBURY **$129,900**
Vacant Land! Approved lot located in South Glastonbury directly across from Old Maids Lane. Located within the Nayaug School District. Ideal location. Last lot available in three lot subdivision. You can choose your builder! Approximately 2.59 acres.
JODYSMAGLIS.COM 860-573-2090

GLASTONBURY **$269,500**
EXPANDED RANCH ON LEVEL LOT CLOSE TO TOWN CENTER! Remod kitch w/maple cabinets, granite SS appls; French doors into lg FR/dining area; MBR w/ensuite BA; fp in den; new C/air; HW flrs & replacement wndws. 3br 2.1BA, 1700+ sf, 1st flr lndry, att garage. **SUZANNEDELANY.COM 860-402-6178**

EAST HADDAM **$355,000**
4BR/3.1BA post & beam home. Wideboard wood flrs thruout. MBR w/ fp, sitting area & walk-in closet. Back-to-back stone hearth in FR & DR. Kit w/ eat-in area & desk, granite & SS. Lg great room. Mudroom. Laundry on 1st flr. C/air & C/vac. 2 Car gar.
SHARON FOX 860-805-6917

EAST HAMPTON **$189,900**
Vacant lot on approx 7.85 acres on Rt 66 and Bear Swamp Road. Commercially zoned. Natural gas available, Public water available and public sewer available. This property has two entrances. Only two miles from Rt 2. Come build your new business!
SHARON FOX 860-805-6917

EAST HARTFORD **$21,900**
2BR/1BA Mobile Home. The home sits on a spacious corner lot. Open floor plan, eat in kitchen, thermo windows, easy one floor living. Covered patio. 2 car wide paved driveway. Monthly lot fee $471. All residents over 18 subject to park approval.
JODYSMAGLIS.COM 860-573-2090

HAMPTON **$449,000**
23+ ac horse property. Indoor riding arena w/ heat/ac viewing room & attached barn w/ 14 stalls incl. a wash stall. Barn has bathroom w/ laundry. Sand rink. 6 fenced pastures. Business opp for boarding horses. The house is a 3BR/1.1BA raised ranch.
SHARON FOX 860-805-6917

HEBRON **$329,900**
Beautiful 4BR/3.1BA Victorian at end of cul de sac. Front porch. HW floors thru-out. Lrg, sunlit open kitchen. French doors to priv. backyard w/ gazebo. LR has fireplace w/ custom mantle. Fully finished basement w/ full bath for extra bedroom/inlaw.
ALISON SEGDA 860-729-1749

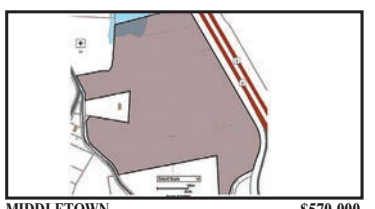
HEBRON **$419,000**
4BR/2.1BA New Construction on over approx 2 acres. Hardwood floors, 9'ceilings, recessed lighting, granite countertops, island in kitchen. Lots of storage, large bedrooms, gas fireplace, covered front porch and rear deck. Gas propane heating.
HERB CARLON 860-716-5347

MANCHESTER **$484,900**
Cheney Mansion Estate historical home w/modern amenities! Craftsmanship rarely seen in newer homes. A full bathroom & working fireplace for almost every bedroom. Large updated kitchen w/original range & multiple ovens. Lots of parking & 2 car garage.
JODYSMAGLIS.COM 860-573-2090

MANCHESTER **$166,000**
3BR/1.1BA Col in nice neighborhood w/ lrg open kitchen, sliders off dining area lead to deck w/ fenced in yard. Lrg LR w/ beautiful bay window & fp. Fin basement w/ bar & Jacuzzi tub. 2 car garage. Convenient to local restaurants, shopping & medical.
ALISON SEGDA 860-729-1749

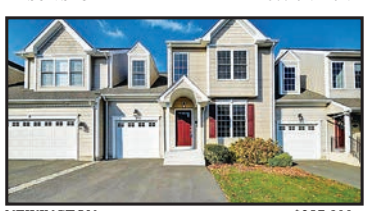
MARLBOROUGH **$724,900**
4BR/4BA Cape, 1st flr MBR suite, porch, stone patio & Trex deck! Indoor heated granite pool, 6 stall horse barn, carriage house, smoke house, 55'lake frontage, gran & SS kit, flr to ceil stone fp in LR. Set upon apprx 2.79ac on Lake Terramuggus.
GINAMLAVERY.COM 860-869-2148

MARLBOROUGH **$469,900**
4BR/3.1BA Col on approx 1.8 private / wooded acres w/ fabulous views. Gourmet kit w/ granite, SS & b'fast bar open to FR. 9'ceil, HW flrs & crown moldings. MBR w/ walk-in closet & whirlpool bath. Fin walk-out LL w/ FR & full BA. In-law potential.
SILVIA ORAMA 860-550-4968



MIDDLETOWN **$570,000**
Approx 41 ac parcel near Haddam town line offers a unique opportunity. Raw land in zone R-60 gives many potential options for use; from a subdivision of single family homes to an outdoor recreational facility. Ease of access to Hartford or New Haven.
GINAMLAVERY.COM 860-869-2148

NEW BRITAIN **$149,000**
Well maintained 4BR/1.1BA Cape on Farmington line. Choice of MBR on main or upper level! Sun room w/ new windows opens to new patio & hedged, private backyard. New roof in 2011 & new HWH. New carpet in family room in 2016. Wood stove in basement.
CARI ANDROSS 860-301-7850



NEWINGTON **$287,900**
2BR/2.1BA Townhouse in Newington Ridge built in 2008. Open floor plan. Triple crown molding in open LR/DR. Kit w/ center island, breakfast bar, granite countertops & pantry, opens to two-story great room. Ample closet space in BRs & 2nd flr laundry.
KATE KELLEHER 860-944-3695

PORTLAND **$334,900**
4BR/3BA Cape/Chalet. New kit w/ granite & SS. New roof, new siding, new HW flrs, new carpet, new bathroom on the 2nd flr. C/Air. 2 car garage, walk-out basement. Two sliding doors lead to wrap-around deck. Generator hook-up. Shed. Private setting.
SHARON FOX 860-805-6917

SOUTH WINDSOR **$419,900**
3BR/2.1BA Contemp, Split level w/ opn flr pln. EIK. LL has theater rm, additional bedroom, recreation or play room. Laundry room and lots of storage. Master has huge closet and master bath. Updated bath on main level. Pub Utils & Nat. Gas. C/Air
HERB CARLON 860-716-5347

SOUTH WINDSOR **$289,900**
4BR/2BA Ranch. HW flrs, lg updated kit. DR w/ garden window & french doors leads to sunroom / office. FR w/ dry bar & woodstove. 2 tiered deck leading to ingrnd pool. Fenced yard. CVAC, CAIR, 3 zone heat, paver driveway. Close to Orchard Hill School.
JODYSMAGLIS.COM 860-573-2090

Glastonbury Office | 119 Hebron Avenue | Glastonbury, CT 06033 | 860.633.3661
ColdwellBankerHomes.com

©2016 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker, the Coldwell Banker Logo, Coldwell Banker Previews International, the Coldwell Banker Previews International logo and "Dedicated to Luxury Real Estate" are registered and unregistered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC.

COLDWELL BANKER PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Giovanni's
Brick Oven Pizzeria
Catering
Let us put together a Holiday Package that fits any budget!

1/2 Tray - Full Tray Available
Appetizers • Salads
Pasta • Party Pizzas
SPECIAL AT GIOVANNI'S
Deep Dish Pizza
Like us on Facebook for Special Deals
Giovanni's
Catering
860-633-0041
113 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury

> "We want to be here and serving Glastonbury however we can, in whatever way we can."
>
> – George Lim

wanted to live in Connecticut," Lim said.

The couple began to look at starting a church in the state. Lim came to Connecticut in the spring of 2012. They'd decided to focus on settling in the Hartford area.

"I just rented a car and literally just drove around. I don't want to sound ultra-spiritual, but I would stop in towns and just pray and see if this is where God wanted us to move. As I was updating Janelle on my travels, she had done some research and said why don't you look at Glastonbury? I really had no intention of driving by this town unless I nothing else to do," he recalled.

Lim ended up getting lost and driving past the 'Welcome to Glastonbury' sign.

"I feel as though I need to pull over and pray, because that's what I do. Now, obviously downtown Glastonbury is pleasant to the eye. I look across and I see the center green fountain," he said.

The first book of John, Chapter *7, verses 37 and 38, popped into his* head: *"If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."*

"When I had that come to my mind, I fully believed this was the place we needed to be," he said. "When I brought Janelle, she, like myself, fell in love with the town. It's everything we always desired and never experienced but love. We absolutely love living in this town."

The Lims, with their children George, 8, Kade, 5, and Nole, 3, moved to town in August 2015. Lim took a job at Boston Market in Manchester and set about starting The River Church Glastonbury. That included working with other churches, such as CenterPoint Community Church in Wethersfield.

"For the past eight months, CenterPoint has been our home church where we attend regularly. Previous to that, we were attending Calvary Fellowship in West Hartford. Both CenterPoint and Calvary Fellowship are partnered with us," said Lim, who is lead pastor at The River Church Glastonbury. "Pastor Chris Skowronek of CenterPoint, has been coaching me, and CenterPoint will continue to come alongside us to ensure we start well. Additionally, Pastor Bill LaMorey is someone I met on my first trip to Connecticut and we have been friends since. He has been guiding and supporting us since we started this journey. We definitely plan on being in an ongoing relationship with both of them, in addition to the [Baptist Convention of New England]. We have received a lot of open arms and help from other Connecticut/New England churches. It has been very encouraging."

He has also formed a unique relationship with Pastor Peter Johnson and Pilgrim Christian Fellowship on Hebron Avenue.

"They have been gracious enough to let us use their space on Saturday night. I came and visited their service one morning and formed a friendship and it's been really cool," Lim said.

The church held its first service October 15.

Jon and Jackie Owens relocated to South Glastonbury from Singapore two and a half years ago. They had lived in San Diego and met the Lims through a mutual friend.

"We never crossed paths while we lived out there, but the Lims became close friends with someone that Jackie and I knew from our church in San Diego in the early 2000s," Jon Owens said. "When this mutual friend realized that the Lims were moving to Glastonbury, he sent me a Facebook message to inform me. Initially, our objective was to simply meet the Lims and help welcome them to town. We really had no idea that this simple

act of arranging for our families to meet at Sweet Frog for fro-yo in late summer 2015 was going to have such an impact on our lives. After our initial few family get-togethers, George and I started hanging out on a pretty regular basis throughout the fall and winter. We met up for coffee a few times, then we started running together, and as we got to know each other better, we found that, despite our diverse backgrounds, we have a lot in common. Some of these are fairly typical. We both want to serve and love our wives unconditionally; we both want to be the best fathers we can be to our children, and we're both trying to shed a few – or more – pounds. But beyond all of that, George and I, and our wives, share the same faith in Jesus Christ, a conviction that the Bible is filled with a message of good news for everyone, and a belief that the Church should be a place where imperfect people can gather to find peace, hope and genuine friendship in a world that is often void of these things.

"Plus, our families have both really grown to love Glastonbury. It's such a great community on so many levels, and my wife and I saw an opportunity to partner with the Lims as The River Church comes to life. We want to help them see their vision for a new church come to fruition, and, while doing so, hopefully play a part in making Glastonbury an even better place," Owens added.

Jon and Jackie Owens are part of the church's core team, helping with everything from set-up to clean-up, as well as financial support and planning.

"As far as support during the actual church services, I'll likely be behind the keyboard and singing most weeks, and my wife will be doing some singing and helping with kids' activities," Owens said. "Our daughter, Jordan, 15, will probably be singing and lending a hand with social media and community outreach. You'll find our oldest son, Jonathan, 12, playing the 'cajon,' a percussion instrument, with the band during our services, while Jude, 9, will probably be spending as much time as possible near the snack table. Kids are far more capable than most seem to realize, so we involve them in every aspect of our lives. The main purpose of a core team is to assist the pastors with anything needed to support the church, especially in the early days when there is so much to be done."

It's a family effort for the Lims, as well.

"Janelle is helping with the music, the website, the graphic design. One of her gifts is what we call hospitality, making people feel welcome. I don't know what I would do without her," Lim said.

He said the Saturday services will last 30 minutes or so and will include music and Bible study.

"We are associated with the Baptist Convention of New England. Sometimes when people hear 'Baptist,' they have a certain picture in their mind of what the music sounds like. We have much more of modern sound," he promised. "At the close of the service, we'll hang out with whoever wants to do that. We'll be teaching the Bible and forming relationships so we can live life together. Those are the things we highly value. That's the spirit of The River Church Glastonbury. We teach the Bible so people know who Jesus is and we can live life as a genuine, authentic community."

Owens and his family are attracted to that concept.

"Our journey through life is not always an easy one. In fact, it can be really challenging sometimes, but it can also be a whole lot of fun. Either way, life is better when we're not alone on the journey. In fact, God created us to be 'in community.' One of the first things God said after creation was, 'It is not good that the man should be alone.' And why not be a part of a community where you can relax and have fun, find answers to some of life's biggest questions, find someone to lean on if you're going through a difficult season, find a way to serve your community and each other, and discover how to get closer to God in the process?" Owens said. "So I'd encourage anyone to come and check out The River Church. If you've never before stepped foot inside a church, The River Church welcomes you with open arms. If you're new to the community and looking for a church home, stop in and say, 'Hi.' Or if your concept of church involves a place filled with rules, regulations, relics and religion that's not relevant to real life, come and check out something different. As one of our core values states: TRC is all about being a warm, authentic family that enjoys growing together. And we'd like you, one and all, to be a part of that family."

For now, that's a very small community, but Lim looks forward to the church growing both in the number of participants and in the church's offerings.

"Our vison for our church is based on that verse I heard at the fountain. Our vision for The River Church is to see a genuine community coming to Jesus and bringing his joy to Glastonbury and to the world. When I unpack that and what that looks like to me, my wife and I are very relational people. We value friendships and community. We see a genuine community. We envision a church that is authentic, not only in relationship by association but we're really living life together. We understand that may look messy sometimes. That is how we believe God has created us, to live in community with each other. That's a huge part of what we value at The River Church. I also envision coming to Jesus. I place a high value on teaching from the Bible and helping people learn from the Bible as well, from the scriptures, the old and New Testament, helping people come to Jesus. I don't want people to have just have head knowledge. I want them to have experience as well, to have relational knowledge with what we believe is a living God and his joy. We believe his scripture and Christian message is a message of hope and joy. If we're teaching the Bible right, joy is bound to spread to our community and to our world," Lim said. "We want to be here and serving Glastonbury however we can, in whatever way we can." GL

The River Church Glastonbury meets on Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. at Pilgrim Christian Fellowship, 1199 Hebron Avenue. Learn more at theriverchurchct.com.

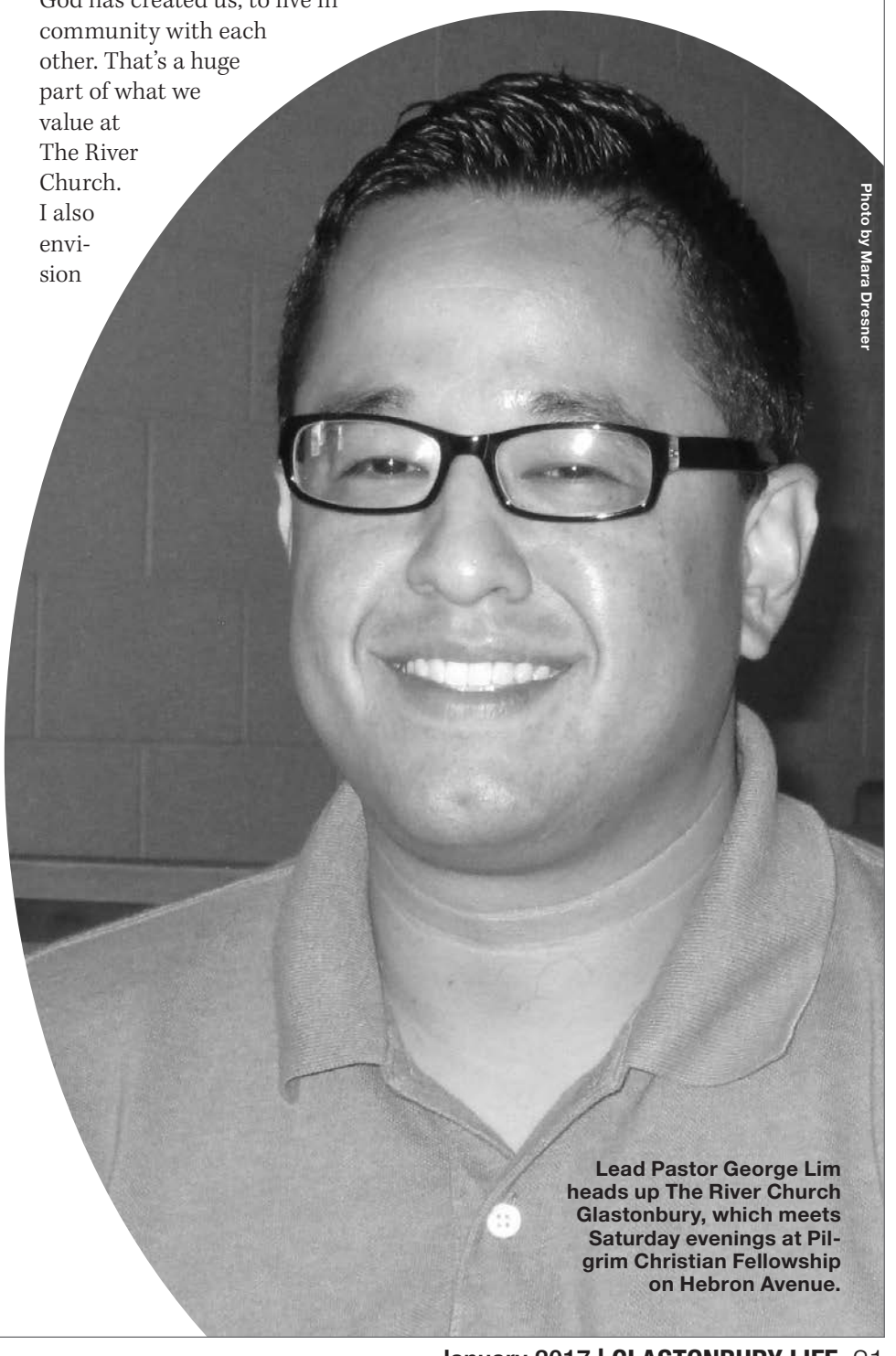


Photo by Mara Dresner

Lead Pastor George Lim heads up The River Church Glastonbury, which meets Saturday evenings at Pilgrim Christian Fellowship on Hebron Avenue.

Red and blue at the holiday table

Ways to ensure your gathering stays peaceful – no matter how you voted

by Mara Dresner
Staff Writer

Courtesy photos

Amy Di Mauro, a licensed clinical social worker at Rushford at Glastonbury, said holidays are often a challenging time, even more so this year.

The Rev. Dr. Robert S. Henderson, a licensed marriage and family therapist, says, that family gatherings often see unchecked emotions.

The Rev. Denise Cabana of St. James' Episcopal Church is focusing on the good this holiday season.

We all like to imagine that our holidays are going to be out of a Norman Rockwell painting, but the reality is usually a good deal more nuanced. This year especially, following a contentious election, many people are dreading the time with family and friends.

"The election brought out intense emotions, especially anger. Many feel they are right and the other person is wrong. There has been a shortage of listening to hear and to understand. Unreflective anger can soar into violence before we know it. Family gatherings are natural times for unchecked emotions," said the Rev. Dr. Robert S. Henderson, a licensed marriage and family therapist. "It might be good if we delay our election discussions for awhile. We have all been through a lot with the campaign and our political souls need a break."

Amy Di Mauro, a licensed clinical social worker and the clinical director of adolescent services, prevention and adult services at Rushford at Glastonbury, said that even in a typical year holidays can be less than ideal.

"Holidays can be a challenging time on their own," she said. "This year, post-election is proving to be even more challenging. 2016, in general, has been a year focused on social justice and human rights. In the past year, we have witnessed and perhaps participated in, at least posted or tweeted about, some major movements with LGBTQI rights, women's rights and Black Lives Matter to name a few," she said. "In the midst of political protests and social disagreements, let us not forget what it means to celebrate a holiday with your family."

While she doesn't think we should forget about the important issues we're facing, she also doesn't believe that holidays are necessarily the best time to discuss controversial topics – unless everyone is on the same page.

"For families that are like-minded and enjoy political conversation, I say 'go for it,'" she said.

Otherwise, she suggested that the host take responsibility for setting the tone as well as the table.

"As a host, or as a neutral responsible adult, set some ground rules, [such as] 'No talk of politics during the holiday celebration,'" she said.

Try using humor, such as imposing a dollar fine to be put in a jar each time a guest brings up politics, the money to be donated to a charity of the host's choice.

"Pre-discuss the ground rules, so that no one is surprised," she suggested.

The Rev. Denise Cabana, rector of St. James' Episcopal Church, agrees that taking politics off the table might be the best option in times when tempers run high. She also advocates letting everyone know ahead of time.

"Send out an email, text or Facebook notice to those who are coming saying this is going to be a day/place where all are welcome who want to come to celebrate the holiday and being with those they love – period," she said. "Plan dinner conversation. Put slips of paper in a bowl with topics or things to share with one another and have everyone take turns pulling one out, then go around the table answering the question. Things like favorite vacation, most embarrassing moment, first kiss, things like that. Something that gives people another focus besides the issues of the country."

Di Mauro also recommends having a plan for possible conversation starters, such as the kids, vacation plans, work, movies and concerts.

"Remind each other of commonalities and traditions that remain nostalgic and joyful. Focus on similarities. Focus on the blessings over the past year. When all else fails, focus on the food and find comfort in knowing that food has always brought people together," she said.

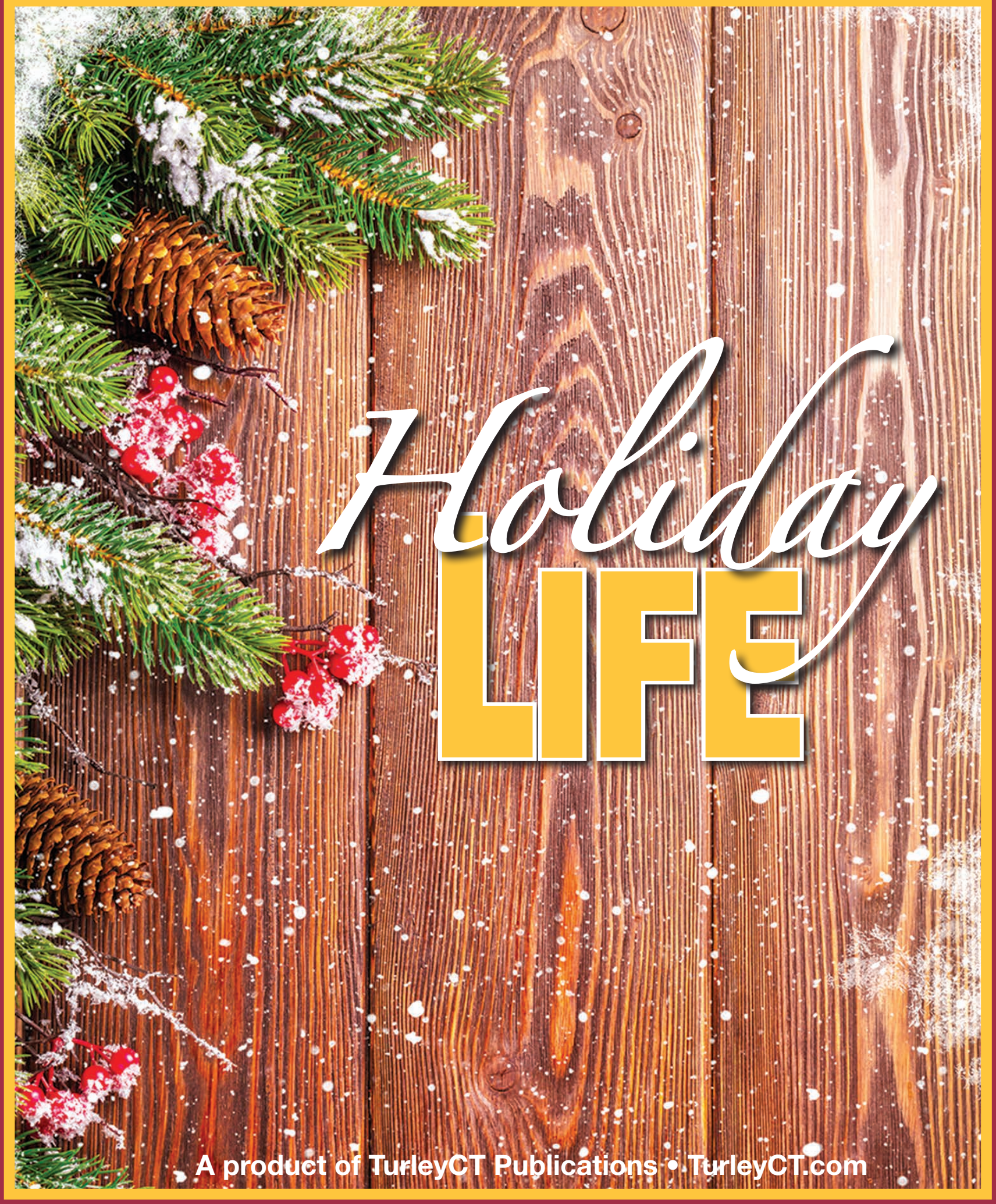
Henderson said people often fall back on familiar topics.

"People who insist on talking about the election probably do not know what else to talk about. Keeping it light and enjoying the time together can help them," he said.

He also said that taking time for self-reflection can be helpful.

"We all have a shadow which is the side of us we do not see. Often the shadow feels like our enemy. When we project the shadow on others, they become the enemy. Politically, in the other side we are reacting to a part of ourselves. I have spent some time trying to find the Trump inside me, instead of focusing just on him. The enemy is both outside us and inside," he said.

HOLIDAY TABLE continued on page 42


Holiday
LIFE
A product of TurleyCT Publications • TurleyCT.com

Holiday LIFE

Dreaming Of A GREEN Christmas

Tips to make your holiday more environmentally friendly

by Lynn Woike
LIFE Staff

Green candles, green wreaths and green table runners don't necessarily add up to a green Christmas. The season tends to result in more garbage and more energy consumption, but with a bit of effort and planning, the environmental impact of the holiday season can be reduced.

"I like the idea of buying a real Christmas tree versus a fake one," said Margery Winters, assistant director at the

Boots! Boots! Boots!
10%-30% off
Most Boots Storewide
FootPrints has the perfect holiday gift for everyone on your list!!! FREE gift wrapping!
We have Your Size & Width
Large selection of UGG australia
FOOTPRINTS
Shoes & Accessories
79 Costello Road, Newington • (860) 666-3100
Mon.-Sat. 9:30-5:45 • Thurs. Night to 8:45 • Sun. 10:00-5:00
NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!

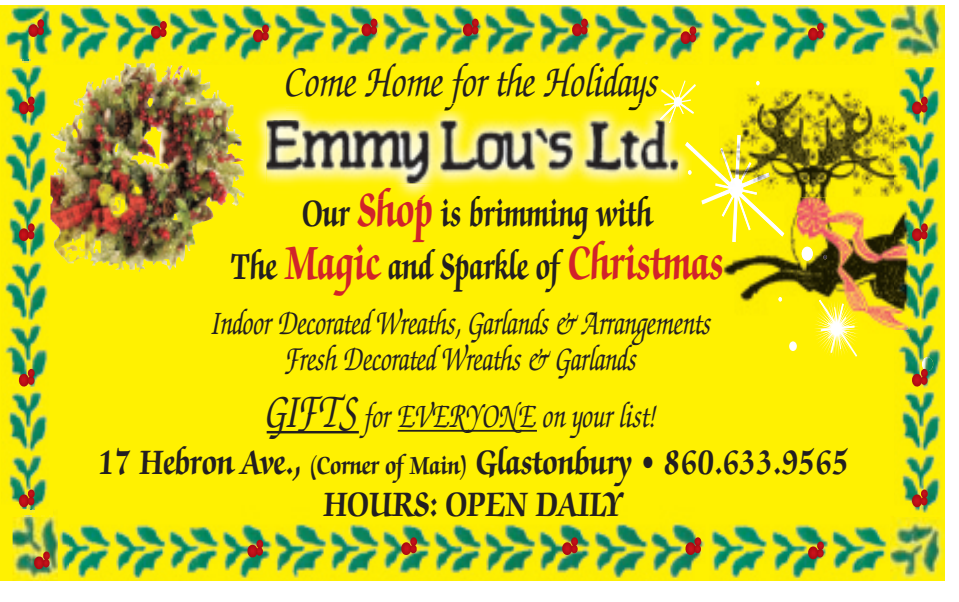
The Most Open Public Sessions in CT!
Right Around the Corner from Westfarms Mall!
Bring your family and friends over for a Holiday Skate

Now offering DJ skates every Friday 7:00-8:30 p.m. and Saturday 6:45-7:45 p.m.
Check out our website for special theme nights.

Registration is now open for our Vacation Skating Camp *(Dec. 26,27,28,29,30)*
Hurry because classes fill up fast.

Veterans Memorial Skating Rink
56 Buena Vista Rd.
West Hartford, CT
860-561-8290
skatevmsr.com

Mark your calendar now for our annual **Skate with Santa** on Friday, December 16
4:30-5:30
for some fun on the ice with Santa!


Come Home for the Holidays
Emmy Lou's Ltd.
Our Shop is brimming with
The Magic and Sparkle of Christmas
Indoor Decorated Wreaths, Garlands & Arrangements
Fresh Decorated Wreaths & Garlands
GIFTS for EVERYONE on your list!
17 Hebron Ave., (Corner of Main) Glastonbury • 860.633.9565
HOURS: OPEN DAILY

Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, adding, "It smells better and it's more in keeping with the season."

Christy Page, assistant park naturalist at Westmoor Park in West Hartford also advocates for live trees, saying, "They are a renewable resource, and the Christmas tree farms provide bird and animal habitats throughout the years as the trees grow to useable size."

"There's something special about giving your time."

– John Calandrelli

LED lights are more energy efficient, which is more eco-friendly, Winters said.

She also suggested pruning other evergreens, including holly and ivy, to bring inside and use as decorations during the Christmas season.

To prevent any bugs from coming in with pine cones, she suggested putting them in a 150-degree oven for 30-60 minutes.

"Keep it simple," Winters said. "Use less plastic and more natural materials."

When the dropping needles signal it's time to take down the tree, Winters said she likes to dismantle the tree with pruning shears and use the branches as mulch in her garden to keep the ground cold and the perennials from popping up prematurely if the temperature rises.

Every year, Kasha Breau, the lead teacher naturalist at Connecticut Audubon Society, Center at Glastonbury, puts her Christmas tree up outside instead of inside.

She decorates a small evergreen tied to a post with cold-weather ornaments for the birds, such as bagel slices covered with peanut butter and dipped in birdseed, and kabob-like decorations using fresh cranberries, pieces of apple, grapes and orange slices.

"You can use the green floral wire" to hold the food, forming a loop at the bottom so it does not fall off, and hanging it on a branch. When the fruit has been eaten, you can remove the wire, wipe it off, put on more food and rehang it, making your tree different every time. Slices of apple and oranges can also be hung with string or wire.

"It makes your tree a really friendly place," she said.

mickey finn's
mickeyfinnstores.com
HOLIDAY SALE IS ON!
LACOSTE
MENS SWEATERS & OUTERWEAR
ALL 30-40% OFF
POLO RALPH LAUREN
OUTERWEAR
ALL 30-40% OFF
UNDER ARMOUR
MENS & LADIES SELECT FLEECE
TAKE 25% OFF ENDS 12/18
LEVI'S
MENS
505 Regular Fit
550 Relaxed Fit
559 Straight
514 Slim
Lowest Price!
$36.99
IZOD
MEN'S SHIRTS & SWEATERS
ALL 50% OFF
NAUTICA
MEN'S SHIRTS & SWEATERS
ALL 40-60% OFF
Great Holiday Savings on all your Favorite Brands!
POLO RALPH LAUREN
SOREL
adidas
LACOSTE
vineyard vines
Timberland
patagonia
MICHAEL KORS WATCHES
Tommy Bahama
mickey finn's
mickeyfinnstores.com
874 BERLIN TPKE. BERLIN, CT 860-828-6547
HOURS: M-F (9:30-9) SAT. (9:30-6) SUN. (11-5)

Happy Holidays
from Ehrlich Interiors
Full Service Interior Design
Custom Upholstery • Furniture
Custom Window Treatments • Fabrics
and a lot more!
Schedule online a home or office consultation
Stop in or Call today 860-678-0111
EHRLICH INTERIORS
Inspired design with you in mind
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT:
2 EASTVIEW DRIVE | FARMINGTON
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10-4
EHRLICHINTERIORS.COM
The Original Ehrlich Interiors Since 1902

It doesn't have to be an evergreen tree, Breau said, noting that bird-friendly ornaments can be hung from any tree, and lights can also be added.

"That way there's no mess of a tree in the house, no needles falling off. ... It's something a little bit different," she said.

"Instead of giving a lot of 'stuff' at Christmas," Peter McKnight, a member of the Connecticut Sierra Club who works in West Hartford, suggests "giving a donation to an eco-friendly organization or to a group you know the recipient supports."

Page echoed that suggestion.

"Donate to something good on behalf of someone – there are a lot of organizations that have ways to 'gift' someone by donating in their name. Find an organization that fits the passions of the person you are trying to buy for, and use the amount you would have spent on a physical gift to donate in their name instead," she said.

If it seems an envelope is not enough to open, McKnight advocated for adding "something small, useful and consumable that won't end up in a landfill," such as soap made at a local farm or a mini loaf of bread.

John Calandrelli, Connecticut Sierra Club's local program manager, avoids Black Friday "at all costs," calling it the most important step to having a greener Christmas.

Rather, he said, "Give of yourself" to family and friends. "There's something special about giving your time: you don't know how much of it you have and once it's gone, you can't get it back.

"Promise them one back rub or take them to ride a horse or take them ice skating. Your time and caring are more important than anything you can give them. If they like to open something on the holiday, you can wrap your giving in a box or envelope. Your gift will keep giving after the holiday craziness is long gone."

Page likes giving "adventures instead of gifts," such as certificates for a shared experience such as camping, hiking, canoeing, or even going to see a movie together.

Cheri Collins, coordinator at the Wethersfield Nature Center, said, "One thing that people have been doing in recent years, that I like and have done as well, is instead of using paper, to buy some really nice fabric to wrap gifts in."

The fabric can be reused to wrap future gifts, or, if a dish towel or scarf were chosen, they can become usable gifts as well.

"I like to hand make gifts for people," she said.

In addition to handmade and home-baked items, she likes to give herbs and other plants to friends.

"Rosemary is easy to root," she noted.

For Doug Jackson, a park naturalist at Westmoor Park, a green Christmas is a part of green living. However you define it, 'green' is a more simple lifestyle that reduces "the amount of things we consume," he said.

"If you have been in the habit of making extensive light displays during the holiday season, then scale it down in size. ... For family travel plans, be intentional about how much driving you do during the holidays. ... Make your home as energy efficient as possible, in as many areas as possible: heating, lighting, etc.," Jackson said.

That way, eco-friendly efforts will extend into the new year. **GL**

GIVE THE GIFT
of
GOODSPEED
GIFT CERTIFICATES
always the right size, always the right color
ALWAYS APPRECIATED
Photo courtesy of Chris Graham
Available in any amount and may be redeemed for tickets to any of our shows.
VISIT OR CALL THE BOX OFFICE
goodspeed.org | 860.873.8668

Merry Maids is
Dependable, thorough cleaning • Bonded & Insured
Satisfaction Guaranteed • Can provide other home-care services
Loyalty/Referral Programs • Easily Customizable Cleaning
Outstanding Customer Service Strategies • Extensively Trained Employees
merry maids
860-563-8367
email: merrymaids.buckridge@gmail.com
Holiday Special!
Gift Certificates!
Take $20 OFF any gift certificate purchase
*must be a minimum of 2 hours
$99.00 OFF
$33.00 Off First Full House Cleaning
$33.00 Off 5th & 10th Cleaning
New customers only
Not valid with other offers.
CARPET CLEANING SPECIAL
$10.00 OFF
with minimum of 4 carpeted areas
Not valid with other offers.
$15.00 OFF
any window service.
Minimum of 8 windows
Not valid with other offers.
$20.00 OFF
any gutter cleaning service.
Not valid with other offers.
www.merrymaids.com

Holiday FAVORITES

From our... recipe files ...to yours

Our favorite recipes for the holidays or other days

The holidays are a time of giving, and of creating special meals for family and friends. With that in mind, staff members at TurleyCT Community Publications are sharing some of our very favorite recipes, delicious at the holidays or any time of the year.

Italian Anise Cookies

Ingredients:

3/4 cup sugar
1 stick butter
2 large eggs
1/4 cup milk
1 teaspoon anise extract
2 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
2 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon fine salt

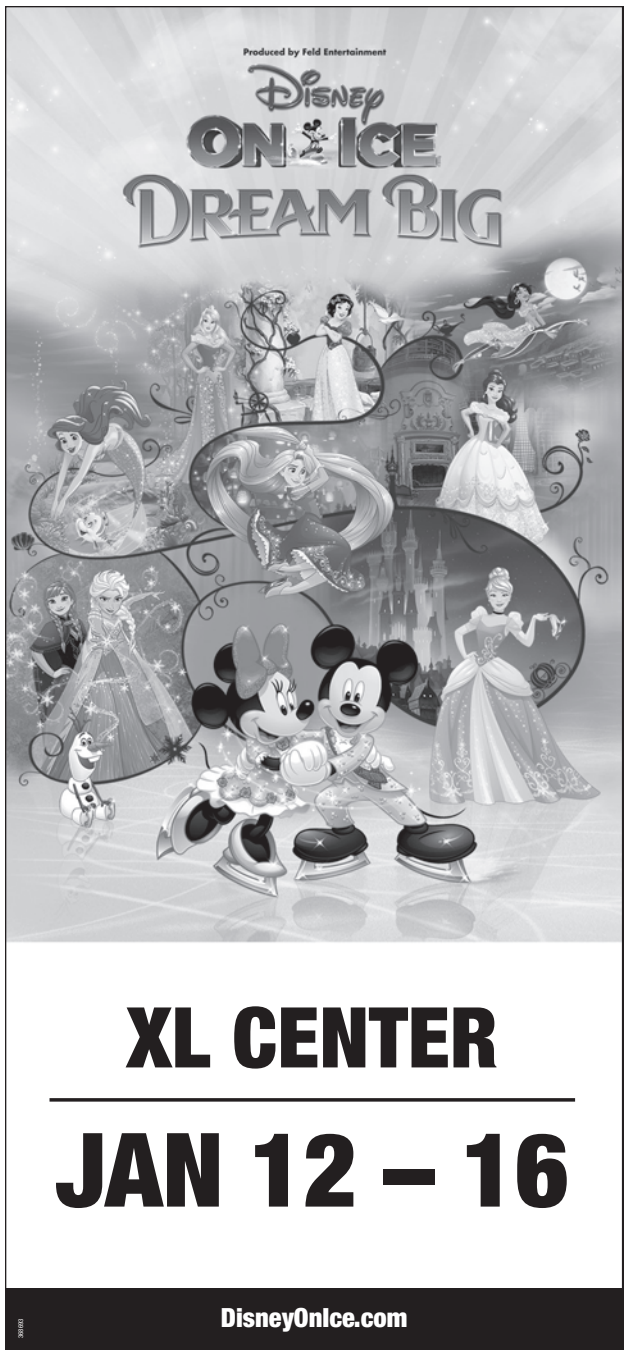
Directions:
Heat oven to 325 degrees. Coat baking sheets with non-stick spray.
Beat first five ingredients on low speed. Beat in the next three ingredients until blended. Drop rounded teaspoons of dough onto the cookie sheets about 2" apart. Bake 10 to 12 minutes until golden on bottom. Cool on a wire rack. Dip tops in glaze (below).

Glaze: Combine one cup confectioner's sugar, 4 to 5 tsp. milk and a tsp. of anise extract. After glazing, top with a sprinkle or colored sugar of your choice.

Patty Ewert, one of our account executives, shared this recipe for easy Italian anise cookies. She said they're great for the holidays.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!
FREE GIFT WRAPPING!
CHECKERS
FOLLOW US ON:
10 FT LONG STOCKING STUFFER BAR!
25% off one item
through 12/24
Must present this coupon to receive discount. Offer valid on regular priced merchandise only. Excludes clearance and sale items. Not valid on previous purchases. Not valid on Lego.
Pinwheels
Toys & Games
41 Hebron Avenue
Glastonbury, CT
860.430.2954
www.pinwheelstoys.com

The Silver Dahlia
GLASTONBURY | WEST HARTFORD | SIMSBURY
Vera Bradley
CHOOSE JOY
GRATITUDE
I AM LOVED
CHOOSE LOVE
HAVE COURAGE AND BE KIND
25% OFF ONE ITEM THROUGH 12/24
Must present this coupon to receive discount. Offer valid on regular priced merchandise only. Excludes clearance and sale items. Not valid on previously purchased merchandise.
FREE GIFT WRAPPING!
www.thesilverdahlia.com



Holiday LIFE

Chocolate Truffles

Ingredients:
1/2 pound bittersweet chocolate
1/2 pound semisweet chocolate
1 cup heavy cream
2 tablespoons orange-flavored liqueur (optional)
1 tablespoon prepared coffee
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
Confectioners' sugar
Cocoa powder

Directions:
Chop the chocolate finely with a sharp knife. Place in a heat-proof mixing bowl.
Heat the cream in a small saucepan until it just boils. Turn off the heat and allow the cream to sit for 20 seconds. Pour the cream through a fine-meshed sieve into the bowl with the chocolate. With a wire whisk, slowly stir the cream and chocolates together until the chocolate is completely melted. Whisk in the orange flavored liqueur, if using it, and the coffee and vanilla. Set aside at room temperature for one hour.
With 2 teaspoons, spoon round balls of the chocolate mixture onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Roll each ball of chocolate in your hands to roughly make it round. Roll in confectioners' sugar, cocoa powder or both.
These will keep refrigerated for weeks, but serve them at room temperature.

This recipe, involving chocolate and sinfully good, comes from Alicia B. Smith, our associate editor.

"Growing up my family had several holiday traditions – cutting our own tree, our cardinal bird, midnight mass – but none of them related to food. When I got married, I was determined to carry on some of the traditions I had enjoyed while also incorporating those from my husband's family. That's why we have an enormous tree stuffed into our living room and I make bacon wrapped scallops to enjoy while we decorate said tree. One year I decided that we needed chocolate, because why not? This recipe was from an episode I saw on the Food Network and thought it would be the perfect thing. They are messy to make, but delicious to eat!

When we decorate the tree we feast on the scallops and the truffles and my husband serves as bartender whipping up a mean Manhattan, or for an interesting flavor treat maybe a Hooker Chocolate Truffle from the Hooker Brewing Company, based in Bloomfield.

The recipe at right the family recipe box of Glastonbury LIFE editor Nancy Thompson.

"Many came from people I haven't seen in years, but I think of them whenever I recreate their beloved recipes. Like Alicia's truffles, this is pretty messy to make, but oh, so good."

Brandy (or rum) Balls

Ingredients:
1 box crushed vanilla wafers (Nilla brand is best)
1 cup sifted confectioner's sugar
2 tablespoons cocoa powder
1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts (optional)
1/4 cup brandy or rum
1/4 cup light corn syrup

Directions:
Combine all ingredients. Add a little water — about 1 1/2 tablespoons — and form 3/4-inch balls. Roll in colored sugar and store in a tightly covered container.

Happy Holidays!
The Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum Shop
Unique Gifts for All!
Accessories • Books
Ornaments • Candles
Half-Price Table Sale!
December 26th-January 7th
Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum Shop will close after Jan. 7th for the Winter
221 Main Street
Wethersfield
860.529.0612
Open Daily (Except Tuesdays) 10am - 4pm • Sundays 1pm - 4pm

Ornament stories

The holiday season is upon us, and with that comes a wide array of traditions. From handmade creations to pieces passed down through the years, these ornaments are part of the traditions for our staffers.

by Nancy Thompson

The decorations on our family's Christmas tree are a history of the past 47 years, but one ornament has a place of honor every year. When our children were little, we packed away the fancy breakable ornaments we'd bought in the past and decorated the tree with what we thought were kid-proof baubles and doo-dads, including a couple of plastic foam ornaments designed to look like gingerbread cookies. Our son, then a toddler and a huge fan of Cookie Monster, thought the gingerbread boy was real and took a large bite out of its head. The ornament has broken in two a couple of times, been fixed badly at least once, and now is held together by a tongue depressor attached with tape on its backside, but we all love it and laugh when we remember the story.

Photo by Nancy Thompson

Perfect gift for anyone, anytime.

Treat your friends and family to an evening of entertainment!

A gift card makes a great gift! Packed with Broadway, music, comedy and more…

Purchase your gift card today!

Bushnell.org or 860-987-5900

THE BUSHNELL

166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

The 2016-2017 season is sponsored by Bank of America

Check out our new season today at bushnell.org!

Holiday LIFE

Photo by Abigail Albair

by Abigail Albair

Throughout my entire childhood, each year my parents and I would make the short trip from our home to Starkey's Tree Farm to select a tree for our living room. We would spend a Saturday evening watching the holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life" and decorate the tree with an eclectic mix of ornaments – one from every spot we'd vacationed as a family, one to mark every anniversary and occasion, and several made by yours truly out of Popsicle sticks and sequins. When my husband and I were married, we brought to our first tree a collection of ornaments from our past. I retained the beautifully hand-crafted ornaments made for me by a high school friend's "memere," he kept his favorite Yankees' pieces and a few made for him by his father. Over the years, we added one for our dog, Bailey, one from our honeymoon and ones we collected on trips to Rome, Paris and London. This year, however, we add the most precious of all. Our son was born in April, and while we're certain to get at least a few traditional "Baby's First Christmas" ornaments to decorate the tree with this year, our favorite will likely always be this sparkling blue Mickey Mouse, customized with our son's name. His little four-month-old eyes grew wide with wonder during his first trip to the Happiest Place on Earth and we spent many minutes as he peacefully napped in his stroller searching through the Christmas shop in the Magic Kingdom for the perfect way to memorialize the trip on our tree. My hope is, one day, he will take it out each Christmas and smile. He will never remember that first vacation with mom and dad, but we will certainly never forget. **GL**

PET SUPPLIES PLUS
Minus the hassle.
It's the most wonderful time of the year to save.
Sale prices valid November 28 - December 28, 2016

Store Coupon | Offer valid thru 12/31/17.
$10 off Your Purchase of $60 or More
STORE COUPON. May be redeemed at participating Pet Supplies Plus locations only. Must be a Preferred Pet Club member. One coupon per household please. No cash value. May not be combined with any other total purchase offer. OFFER VALID thru DECEMBER 31, 2016.
PLU #89761
PET SUPPLIES PLUS

Critter

Aqueon Deluxe Kits
Select Styles
$39.98-$96.98 AFTER SAVINGS

API Fish Kits
Select Styles
$14.98-$32.98 AFTER SAVINGS

Tetra Glo Fish and Color Fusion Kits
Select Styles
$49.98 AFTER SAVINGS

SAVE up to 25% with card

Zoo Med Reptile Kits
Select Styles
$69.98-$179.98 AFTER SAVINGS

Kaytee My First Home Kits
Select Styles
$29.98-$74.98 AFTER SAVINGS

Critter Trail Habitats
Select Styles
$18.48 - $37.48 AFTER SAVINGS

Buy one, Get one FREE with card

Hot Deal
Kaytee Timothy Hay
48 oz. Pkg.
SAVE $9.98 ON TWO

Hot Deal
Carefresh Complete White
10 Lt. Pkg.
SAVE $8.98 ON TWO

Hot Deal
Nature's Window Wild Bird Food
20 lb. Bag.
SAVE $6.49 ON TWO

SAVE $5 with card

Redford Naturals Dog Food
24-28 lb. Bags,
Natural and Grain Free
$39.98-$51.98 AFTER SAVINGS

Taste of the Wild Dog Food
28-30 lb. Bag,
All Varieties
$44.98 AFTER SAVINGS

CONNECTICUT STORES ARE FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED.

BRISTOL	GROTON	MANCHESTER	WEST HARTFORD	WETHERSFIELD	WETHERSFIELD
1168 Farmington Ave.	646 D. Longhill Road	283 W. Middle Tpk.	2480 Albany Avenue	1773 Berlin Turnpike	1142 Silas Deane Hwy.
860.585.5544	860.446.0022	860.533.9780	860.570.2461	860.563.3110	860.563.3510

January *calendar*

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

7 **The Hot Flashes in concert,** 7:30 p.m., CT Audubon Center, 1361 Main Street. $20 general public, $15 society members. Children younger than 12 are half price. Reservations recommended. 860-633-8402 or ctaudubon.org.

8 **Author Margaret Webster discusses "Lessons from the Road, USA,"** 2 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration requested. Welles Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main St., 860-652-7720 or wtmlib.com

9 **Board of education,** 7:30 p.m., town hall council chambers, 2155 Main St. 860-652-7961 or glastonburyus.org.

Glastonbury High School and Gideon Welles School winter concert, 7:30 p.m., Glastonbury High School auditorium. Snow date January 11.

10 **Town council,** 7 p.m., town hall council chambers, 2155 Main St. 860-652-7710 or glastonbury-ct.gov.

Glastonbury High School bands winter concert, 7:30 p.m., Glastonbury High School auditorium. Snow date January 11.

12 **A Starry Tale,** 6 p.m., Glastonbury East Hartford Magnet School planetarium, 95 Oak St. Tickets available at www.glastonburyplanetarium.org for $5. For more information, email Planetarium@Glastonburyus.org or call 860-652-4910, ext. 364.

Learning about the new OverDrive app, 6:30 p.m. No charge. Registration requested. Welles Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main St., 860-652-7720 or wtmlib.com. Details available on the library's website. Snow date January 31.

17 **Town plan and zoning commission,** 7 p.m., town hall council chambers, 2155 Main St. glastonbury-ct.gov.

21 **Genealogy group** sponsored by the Welsh Society of Western New England, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Participants are asked to bring their Welsh family tree and a lunch dish to share. Reserve a spot by emailing WelshWNE@gmail.com. Directions will be forwarded at that time.

23 **Board of education**, 7:30 p.m., town hall council chambers, 2155 Main St. 860-652-7961 or glastonburyus.org.

24 **Town council**, 7 p.m., town hall council chambers, 2155 Main St. 860-652-7710 or glastonbury-ct.gov.

Coloring club, 6:30 p.m., Welles-Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main St. No charge. 860-652-7720 or wtmlib.com

26 **A Starry Tale,** 5:30 and 7 p.m., Glastonbury East Hartford Magnet School planetarium, 95 Oak St. Tickets available at www.glastonburyplanetarium.org for $5. For more information, email Planetarium@Glastonburyus.org or call 860-652-4910, ext. 364.

28 **"Publishing Your Poetry" workshop,** 2 to 4 p.m., Welles-Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main St. No charge.

29 **Susan Harrison Rashid discusses her novel, "Beneath a Shooting Star,"** 2 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration requested. Welles Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main St., 860-652-7720 or wtmlib.com.

Courtesy photo

The Hot Flashes

Events *spotlight*

The Hot Flashes in concert

January 7, 7:30 p.m.
Connecticut Audubon Center
Ctaudubon.org or 860-633-8402

Local musician Amy Gallatin and The Hot Flashes, along with mandolinist JD Williams and dobro veteran Roger Williams, both from Gallatin's band Stillwaters, and bassist John Urbanik, will kick off the local Audubon center's concert series with a varied assortment of bluegrass, folk, vintage country, swing, jazz and blues. Gallatin's annual January concert usually sells out, so reservations are recommended. Admission is $20 for the general public, $15 for society members. Children younger than 12 are half price.

Our Natural World

Photo submissions January 10 to 14, 1 to 5 p.m.
Connecticut Audubon Center, 1361 Main St.
Ctaudubon.org or 860-633-8402

Amateur photographers are invited to enter one or two nature photographs in the 21st annual "Our Natural World" photo contest. Photos must fit into one of the following categories: plants; animals; birds; butterflies and bugs; landscapes; nature's miracles; and people in relationship with nature. Official rules, including maximum sizes, entry forms and other information is available at ctaudubon.org/Glastonbury. The entry fee is $25 for each photograph for adults. Teens may submit framed photos for $15 each, and pre-teen photographers are asked to submit photos without matting or frames, also for a $15 entry fee for each. The opening reception will take place January 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. with an admission fee of $5. All photos will be on display from January 31 through February 25 from 1 to 5 p.m. Visitors to the exhibit are asked to make a $3 donation.

Community conversation on social justice issues

January 15, 2 to 4 p.m.
Riverfront Community Center, 300 Welles Street

As it has done for several years, the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative will host an event to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and legacy.

The group's first program for 2017 is a community conversation about social justice issues with the goal of encouraging people to discuss issues that impact them individually and as a community openly and honestly. It will feature the Looking In theater group, which travels throughout the state performing for students, youth groups, churches, conferences, parents and professional organizations and for adolescents and adults in residential programs. There is no charge.

Publish your Poetry

January 28, 2 to 4 p.m.
Welles-Turner Memorial Library, 2407 Main Street
poet.laureate @glastonbury-ct.gov

Alexandrina Sergio, the town's poet laureate is sponsoring this workshop for poets who hope to publish a book of their work. Tony Fusco, the publisher at Flying Hors Press, will draw on his background as a poet, journal editor and book publisher to take his audience through the steps leading to publication, the options available to writers, and the costs involved. There will be an opportunity for questions. Handouts will be available and refreshments will be served. There is no charge.

LIFE with Pets

a new leash on LIFE

Inquiries about adoption may be made at the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington. Call 860-594-4500. More information, including videos, can be found online at cthumane.org. Click on "Adopt" and "Newington." The Connecticut Humane Society is a private organization and has no time limits for adoption.

Abigail

Abigail is a 2-year-old female domestic shorthair mix. She's another high-energy animal who craves a quiet home with children who are 12 or older. Abigail has no interest in the great outdoors and should be a strictly indoor cat.

Courtesy photos

Molly

Molly is a female 4-year-old American blue heeler and McNab herding dog mix. She has plenty of energy and needs daily exercise. She is best suited for a single-family home without children. Living with other pets is something she would consider. The best match for Molly is a family or individual with prior herding dog experience. **GL**

NOW WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS

HARTFORD ORTHOPEDIC SURGEONS WELCOMES **ARIS D. YANNOPOULOS, MD** TO PRACTICE

Aris D. Yannopoulos, MD

Well known and highly respected throughout Connecticut, Dr. Aris D. Yannopoulos completed Fellowships in both Spine Surgery and Orthopedic Sports Medicine, and currently serves as the Department Chair of Orthopedic Surgery at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

As part of the Hartford Orthopedic Surgeons team, Dr. Yannopoulos will specialize in Spine Surgery – specifically, Lumbar Micro-Discectomy, Laminectomy, and Lumbar and Cervical Fusions – along with Arthroscopic Surgery, Sports Medicine and General Orthopedics.

Dr. Yannopoulos joins John Mara, MD, Robert McAllister, MD and Randall Risinger, MD of Hartford Orthopedic Surgeons and is welcoming new patients at this time. To arrange a consultation, please call us at 860-525-4469.

HARTFORD ORTHOPEDIC SURGEONS PC

NEW LOCATION!

ORTHO SPEEDPASS
Walk-In Urgent Orthopedic Care

htfdorthosurg.com

HARTFORD
1000 Asylum Ave., Suite 2108
860.525.4469

AVON
35 Nod Rd., Suite 105
860.525.4469

MANCHESTER
WALK-IN CENTER
277 W. Middle Tpke.
860.432.4640
Open Evenings & Saturday

Holiday Dash Challenge

8 weeks to holiday slim

Buy a 6 week package, get two weeks free!

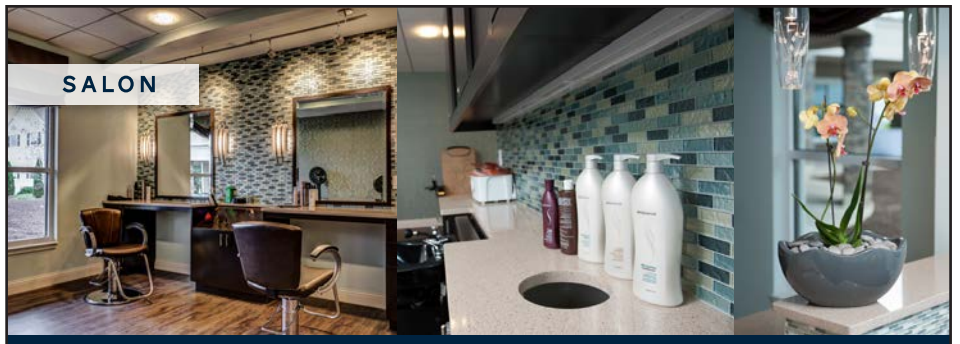
Offer valid through December 31st, 2016.

POP WEIGHT LOSS™
personal one-on-one program

New Location:
120 Hebron Ave., GLASTONBURY
(above Plan B Burger)
(860) 918-9176

455 Boston Post Rd, OLD SAYBROOK
(860) 339-5461
www.popweightloss/connecticut

Read all our publications online at TurleyCT.com



HERE'S THE *Beauty* PART

A New Salon And Spa Experience At Seabury

At Seabury, our "Wellness For Life" philosophy is the foundation of everything we do. With our new salon and spa, we've made some extra room for pampering as well. Male and female residents can now enjoy a full service salon and spa experience with two expert stylists, pedicure and manicure stations and a private massage therapy suite. We've carefully designed this space for maximum comfort and relaxation, with state-of-the-art equipment and the finest products and amenities. Come take a look for yourself. You won't ever want to leave.

Construction is underway on the next two phases of Seabury's expansion, including 68 new independent living residences scheduled to open in the Fall of 2017. We are now accepting applications for residence from adults 50 and over. **Learn more about how to reserve your future home at our monthly informational sessions on every 1st Thursday at 1:30pm and every 3rd Wednesday at 10:30am. Call (860) 243-6081 or (860) 243-4033 for reservations or e-mail info@seaburylife.org.**

Seabury
An Active Life Plan Community

GET Busy LIVING · BEST OF Hartford MAGAZINE 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 · carf ACCREDITED · ICAA

200 SEABURY DRIVE | BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002
(860) 286-0243 | (800) 340-4709
WWW.SEABURYLIFE.ORG | INFO@SEABURYLIFE.ORG

READ LIFE ONLINE AT
www.TurleyCT.com
TurleyCT
COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS

News roundup

Magnet school helps out

Interim principal named

Stephen Falcigno, assistant principal at Smith Middle School, has been appointed as acting principal, replacing long-time Principal Donna Schilke, who is retiring this month. Falcigno started as a science teacher at Smith in 1997 and became assistant principal in 2012. At the time of the announcement, district officials said the position is an interim one because a decision had not been made about closing Eastbury School and they did not want to hire a new administrator who might lose the job if Eastbury is closed.

Budget workshops scheduled

The Glastonbury Board of Education, which has been working on a budget for 2017-2018, will hold a series of budget workshops in January. The workshops will take place January 3, 4 and 5, starting at 6 p.m. in the Glastonbury High School library media center. Members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend the workshops. The board of education will approve a school budget at its January 9 meeting, which will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the town hall council chambers. Once approved, the budget must be reviewed and approved by the town council before taking effect July 1.

Chamber stresses "small"

As part of the annual "Small Business Saturday" event, the CT River Valley Chamber of Commerce generated more than $25,000 in revenue through a raffle with prizes such as jewelry and free yoga classes donated by local merchants. For every $10 spent at a participating business, shoppers received a stamp and a raffle ticket that could go toward any of the prize packages. This is the third year the town has encouraged shoppers to patronize local businesses on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Honoring veterans

The health and physical education department at Glastonbury High School transformed the school's gymnasium into a military obstacle course on Veterans' Day and challenged students and adults to compete in a variety of activities including a timed obstacle run while wearing a weighted backpack and rope activities. Students also were exposed to simulated boot camp activities under the supervision of our physical education teachers and members of the Connecticut Army National Guard. The school organizes special activities each year on Veterans' Day to honor the nation's veterans.

Magnet school helps out

Third, fourth, and fifth graders at Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School have collected 1,313 items for the Glastonbury Food Pantry. As part of the project, students learned about healthy food options and the need to help people who are hungry in their community. They later presented the information to the school's younger students and visited the food pantry to deliver the donations. GL

Note from Nancy

A look back, a look ahead

Janus

Courtesy photos

My high school yearbook was called the Janus. I didn't really appreciate its meaning at the time, but I now realize that it makes perfect sense.

I just Googled "Janus" and found an investment group, a motorcycle company, a band and a manufacturer of luxury outdoor furniture. Not exactly what I was looking for. Eventually, though, I found a Wikipedia entry for Janus as the ancient Roman god of beginnings, transitions, and endings. It's definitely an appropriate symbol for something as significant as high school graduation.

Like many other ancient Romans, Janus has a month named for him. I knew where July and August came from – thank you Caesars – but never gave much thought to January or most of the other months. Again, Janus ¬-- and the upcoming month named for him -- are asking us to look to the past and to the future.

At the risk of sounding like a grumpy old person again, New Year's Eve is not one of my favorite holidays. When I was in college, I spent most of them in Ohio, where my father's job had forced us to move, and where I knew nobody outside of my immediate family. Not exactly a setup for an exciting evening. After we were married, my husband and I usually spent New Year's with friends, playing cards, drinking perhaps a bit too much, and eating a huge steak or lobster dinner at midnight. When I think back on those nights I realize that "young and stupid" is more than a cliché. There were event nights – early mornings, actually – when we drove home in fog and snow. But we survived. My favorite was the party at the home of dear friends who lived on a lake in Portland. One year, after that late dinner, we all scrounged around to find warm clothes and then ventured out onto the pond, which had frozen to a glossy, smooth finish, perfect for skating. It was crazy, but it was loads of fun.

Several years later, we welcomed the new millennium at a black-tie wedding with a reception on stage at the Bushnell. We bundled up and went outside to watch the First Night fireworks, then headed to our daughter's party in Farmington to show off our formal duds. Our kids rarely see us in anything but jeans, and they were duly impressed by our finery. What I remember most is the streaker than ran through her yard while we were there.

Since then, though, New Year's Eve has been pretty boring. We've gone to an early movie and had dinner afterward at the New Britain Diner – don't laugh, it was yummy – and we've created nice dinners for ourselves and then struggled to stay up to watch the ball drop in Times Square. To be entirely honest, it's more a matter of waking up to watch the ball drop than actually staying up for it.

I have no idea what we'll do this year, but I suspect it will be quiet. I don't know if it's age or the world around me, but I can't help thinking about the idea of transition, both in national affairs and closer to home. I'm looking forward to some potential changes but not to others.

A lot will be happening in the coming weeks with Christmas, Yule, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and, of course, New Year's Eve. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all, no matter what you celebrate or how you do it, a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy 2017.

– Nancy Thompson

glastonbury LIFE

540 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070
860-651-4700

Read our publication online at TurleyCT.com

KEITH TURLEY, Publisher

EDITORIAL
Abigail Albair, Executive Editor
aalbair@turleyct.com
Nancy Thompson, Editor
Kaitlin McCallum, Assistant Editor

STAFF WRITERS
Alicia B. Smith, Allie Rivera, Mara Dresner, Sloan Brewster, David Heuschkel

ADVERTISING SALES
Matt Winkler
860-264-5653
matt@turleyct.com

PAGE DESIGNERS
Daniel Kornegay, Cynthia Martel, Robert Sirois

GRAPHICS DEPARTMENT
Barbara Ouellette, Production Manager
ads@turleyct.com, 860-264-5523
Maureen LaBier, Production Assistant
Daniel Kornegay, Corley Fleming, Cynthia Martel, Kathy Kokoszka, Mary Grimes

CIRCULATION
For circulation issues, please call 860-651-4700

FOLLOW US ON

published by
TurleyCT
COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS

CLASSIFIEDS

Avon • Canton • Farmington • Glastonbury • Newington • Rocky Hill • Simsbury • West Hartford • Wethersfield

Cleaning Services

ADA'S HOUSE CLEANING – Quality personal service. Weekly, biweekly, or monthly. Specializing in help to clean before closing/ moving or one time cleaning. In business since 2000. Call 860-521-3823 or 860-944-6541. Lic & insured #1110413.

HOUSE CLEANING Experienced lady with references available to clean your house. Affordable rates, one time or scheduled cleaning weekly/biweekly. Call Sileia 860-232-2306 or text 860-890-0689.

ECOCLEAN - GREEN CLEANING SERVICE for your home, office or business. We clean using eco-friendly cleaning products. We clean weekly, bi-weekly or one-time. WINTER **SPECIAL: Second cleaning 50% OFF.** www.ecoclean-ct.com email: katrina@eco-clean-ct.com or call Katrina at 860-676-2729

I Buy Houses

I BUY HOUSES AS-IS. CASH. Call today 860-674-9498 or Email: john@boucherbuilding.com NO COMMISSION FEES. CT. REG. # 530518

Help Wanted

GOOD ATTITUDES REWARDED. MERRY MAIDS NOW HIRING full time or part time. Must be able to work Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm. No nights, holidays or weekends. Must have own car, driver's license and insurance. Please call 860-563-8367 to set up an interview.

McLean in Simsbury has the following opportunities:
RN Supervisor Home Care – a new opening for 40 hours weekly. Must have previous supervisory and home care/hospice experience. Full benefits with our service area only covering the Farmington Valley and West Hartford areas.
RN – Home Care per diem hours for visits in the Farmington Valley and West Hartford areas. Laptops provided for ease with charting and mileage reimbursement. Must have some weekday and weekend availability.
Medicaid Bookkeeper - 32 hour opening for someone with a solid bookkeeping background. Must have strong customer service skills and a thorough knowledge of Medicare and Medicaid regulations as they apply to skilled nursing. Previous experience with electronic billing transmission required.
NEW OPENING Physical Therapist 40 hours weekly needed for treatments and evaluations in the Farmington Valley and West Hartford areas. Must have previous experience. Full benefits and laptops provided for ease with charting. Come and see why McLean Home Care has won top CT Workplace for the past several years!
Dietary Team Leader – previous serving experience required for this 32 hour weekly opening in our dining room. 10:30-7pm 4 days a week including every other weekend. Includes benefits and opportunity to pick up additional hours.
Call McLean Human Resources today! 860-658-3724. EOE

House For Rent

RENT Semi furnished bright, cozy Newington home, beautiful yard, EIN kitchen, dining, living, 2- 3 bedroom, 1st floor master, 1.5 baths, garage, basement, References and credit check a must. $1550 p/ month + elec utilities. Email Charles at rcccoup@aol.com

Services

JOSH'S JUNK REMOVAL - All items removed at a reasonable rate. Call for estimate. We also remove sheds and hot tubs. Insured. Josh Langdon 860-922-4621

BENEDICT OVERHEAD DOOR. Is your one stop for all garage door problems. CT HIC #0621772. Call 860-828-2951.

ANDY WOTTON PLUMBING & HEATING, LLC 860-833-8153. We offer honest plumbing at a reasonable price. Estimates are always given before any work is done. From snaking your main drain to water heaters and boilers, faucets and leaky pipes - WE DO IT ALL. Remember with Andy Wotton Plumbing, it's not done until you say it is. Call today 860-833-8153. Licensed and insured P10282605 S1 0402048.

ONE CALL DOES ALL Home Improvement and Remodeling. We do it all from the ground up. Repairs, Replacement, Remodeling, Wine cellars. Free Estimates. Insured. HIC #0638904. Call Anthony 860-502-9527.

K & D PAINTING Handyman. Interior, exterior, power washing, water damage, removing wallpaper, texture. Painting aluminum and vinyl siding, decks stain. Carpentry: installation doors, windows, decks, floors and trims. Fully insured. Reg: 0674321. Call Kris 860 410 9989.

BATHROOM REFINISHING. Tub and Shower Replacement -economical to custom. Do the job right - replace - don't cover up. Toilets, sinks and vanities as well. Reasonable, licensed and insured. Call Charles Peterson 860-839-0246.

RH MASONRY SERVICES, LLC - All masonry from new construction to repairs of walkways, patios, pool decks, chimneys/ fireplaces, retaining walls. Brick, stone, veneer, pavers, etc. Licensed and Insured. Free estimates. 860.483.0139 www.rhmasonryct.com

Z-THE HANDYMAN, LLC HOME IMPROVEMENT. Interior. Exterior. Painting, flooring, decks, power washing, vinyl siding, roofing, etc. Don't pay high prices, Call 860-690-2855. Ask for John. Licensed & Insured.

CHS CARPENTRY. Kitchen & Bathroom full remodeling, windows, doors, decks, porches, cabinets, installation, paint, custom tile installation, drywalls, siding, rooing, floors & trim work. Fully licensed & insured. References available. Reg.#612982 Call 860-803-5535 or email chscarpentry@live.com

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE - LMT Andrzej Bartkow 558 Prospet Ave., West Hartford, CT. 1.5 hours for $60. Call for appointment. 860-944-4637.

PIANO TUNING AND REPAIRS by Hartt School of Music trained tuner. Piano cleaning and climate control also available. Contact Ted Williams 860-228-0309. or call 860-940-8713

DAVINO ANTIQUE CLOCKS -Antique Clock Repair - Repair and maintenance service for antique and vintage clocks. House calls available. 860-402-5585 www.davinoclocks.com

PROTECT YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY. Patents, trademarks etc. Call Ted Paulding. No longer representing the big guys. Now helping the little guys become a big guy. 860-474-5181.

SNOWBIRDS - WHO'S WATCHING YOUR HOME? MYM - The house sitting alternative. Ask for client references across Greater Hartford. www.mindyourmanorct.com. 860-805-6226.

SECURITY AND FIRE ALARM SERVICES - Sales, installation, service and monitoring of all brands of equipment. Free takeovers of existing systems, free installation on new systems with purchase of equipment. Monthly monitoring rates as low as $20. Call ALL SYSTEMS ELECTRIC, LLC at 860-436-4957 or visit our website at www.ase-ct.com.

JCWEB - WEBSITES DONE RIGHT. JCWeb makes professional business websites and gets you listed on Google and up to 90 different directories. Call James at 860-940-8713 or visit www.jcweb.org

Wanted to Buy

BUYING OLD MAHJONG SETS. Paying cash. Incomplete sets okay. 860-231-8466

WE BUY USED BOOKS. Price varies by book, most around $1.00. Top dollar paid for newer college textbooks. Visit us at donateorsellbooksct.com

Gamblers Anonymous

Gamblers Anonymous can help you. Take back your life. Phone: 855-2-CALL-GA 855-222-5542 to speak with someone. Gamblers Anonymous is a non-profit fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem. www.gamblersanonymous.org.

Guest Column

Glastonbury resident Sheenu Srinivasan shared these remarks at this year's interfaith Thanksgiving service. We are publishing them in the spirit of acceptance and tolerance for all.

Mutual Acceptance

For centuries the word tolerance has been interpreted as a virtuous quality. The dictionary definition of tolerance is one's "ability or willingness to tolerate something, in particular the existence of opinions or behavior that one does not necessarily agree with." Is it a good quality? Of course it is! Does it work? It has generally not; in the context of enhancing mutual understanding among people and making the world a better place. It probably brings some satisfaction to the one who is tolerating but it does precious little to the other. Let us examine the concept, especially in the context of our theme. To me it means that I have no objection to your way of life, your beliefs, your choice of god and your mode of worship. My question is: who am I to judge you or your views?

Tolerating puts us on two different planes – not on the same plane and that is a problem.

Tolerating you is simply to let you be. My wise friend, the late Dr. Frank Lockard, in trying to teach me to be careful with what I touch in the woods taught me what you all know: "Leaves three, leave be", i.e. do not touch but simply leave them alone as it pertained to poison ivy! But people are neither poison nor ivy!

The attitude of tolerance towards another person is an easy one if one wants to practice it. Easier, by far, than acceptance. Acceptance requires understanding. Understanding requires study, capacity to: listen, analyze, discuss, compare and contrast – clearly a harder approach. However that effort on your part to understand, for example, me, may allow a chance
for me to do the same about you and may possibly lead to a change in my views and my preferences to be more like yours. Or - it may not. But the effort alone brings us together and closer as it demonstrates a clear genuine interest on one's part in regard to the other person's. If instead, you tolerate the other person it then becomes a one-way street! Mutual acceptance through understanding however brings us on the same plane and enhances our relationship and now it is a two-way street – an equation.

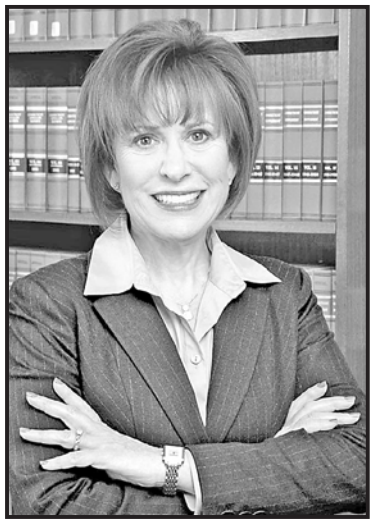
Most of us have learned to be tolerant and that is admirable. It is necessary but not sufficient. It is a first step and may be used to climb higher to the harder acceptance concept. I know it is an additional burden and will require investment of time and thought.

Religious leaders in the past have talked about the concept of a universal religion. But a universal religion is not practical, not even necessary as a formal structured organization. What we do here in Glastonbury each year comes close to this concept as we listen to other views and enjoy them. Perhaps we need to do this more frequently, not just at Thanksgiving and perhaps less formally. As I said before it demands the precious resource of time but it is worth it. I see no better alternative as we deliberate and pray tonight for a caring community and a peaceful world.

The dictionary definition of tolerance is one's "ability or willingness to tolerate something, in particular the existence of opinions or behavior that one does not necessarily agree with."

Dialog, not monologue is the key. Look around any conflict around the world. If you trace back any of them it likely leads to a world unresponsive to a simple, normal, natural desire i.e. the cry: Talk To Me! People want to be heard, to be respected, to be understood, to be accepted, to be appreciated, even admired if we can. But a dialog is essential for that to happen. What is the first sign of trou-

Law Offices of
Deborah R. Eisenberg, LLC



Divorce, Custody, Family Law and Collaborative Divorce

•••

Serving Glastonbury residents for 19 years

2230 Main St., Suite 2
Glastonbury, CT
860-657-2230
www.deisenbergfamlaw.com

PILGRIM MANOR HEALTH & REHAB
A Covenant Retirement Community

We Serve and Welcome The Entire Community

Served over 2,000 individuals from our surrounding communities

~ *Short Term Rehab*
~ *Respite Care*
~ *Long Term Care*
~ *Memory Care*
~ *Skilled Nursing Care*
~ *Outpatient Rehab*

52 Missionnary Rd. • Cromwell **860-559-5408** covenantvillageofcromwell.org

ble in a relationship? The dreaded phrase: We Need to Talk!!

So let us continue the dialog. We may even form a group among ourselves, travel together and attend a service in a church or a mosque or a puja ceremony in a temple. For example, you will learn if you were to visit a Hindu temple, that there is no such thing as a sermon! If you probe deeper into their other rituals, such as for example a wedding, you will be surprised to find parallels between traditions! I have. The emphasis then becomes learning when we explore that way.

We may even be able to exploit modern technology to skype so we can view and listen by signing on to a service in a church different from our own and observe, learn and appreciate without compromising our own belief system. We may thus skype together! This would enhance our understanding of the other, appreciate their approach even as we adhere to our own approaches. Mutual acceptance, appreciation and adherence.

A few years ago I wrote a visitors' manual for those who visit the Hindu temple in Middletown. I was inspired by the Christian tradition of the stations of cross. Each "station" in this manual became a sanctum for a deity representing the One in that form. At the end of that book on page 51, I said "We sincerely hope and pray that as you complete the tour, you will go home with the faith in your own faith reinforced."

So the concept of mutually accepting and appreciating need not be feared. In the process we will discover how connected we truly are. We are a large family in this home called earth. We just saw the interest around the world in distant countries about our election, not only among leaders but also among people. Why should they care? There are, of course, selfish interests but by and large it is that powerful, unrecognized element called connectivity that is playing its part. Let us acknowledge it, nourish it and spread it. And unleash that power of connectivity.

It should work because the holiest of holy scriptures of the Hindus – the Vedas - declared over 5,000 years ago: ekam sat vipraa: bahudaa vadanti: Truth is one but the wise express that truth in different ways. Truth is indeed one! That shall serve as the basis for mutual acceptance, appreciation even as we adhere to our own beliefs. GL

The Hindus – the Vedas - declared over 5,000 years ago: ekam sat vipraa: bahudaa vadanti: Truth is one but the wise express that truth in different ways. Truth is indeed one!

–Sheenu Srinivasan

Sheenu Srinivasan is a professor and consultant, an author, and a former member of the Glastonbury Town Council. His recent books include: "The Bhagavad Gita: A Thread through the Eighteen Gems", "Yaksha Prashna," "Hinduism for Dummies" and "Vedic Wedding: Origins, Tradition and Practice."

Turning 65?

NEW TO MEDICARE?

Find out more information on Medicare Plan Choices!

7 Dickinson Rd., Marlborough ~ (860) 295-9350

CALL US TODAY!
Walk-ins Welcome!
Home visits available!
Call us to Compare plans & save!

Your Medicare Solutions Specialists!
Servicing & Assisting Seniors for over 25 years

HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATES
7 Dickinson Rd., Marlborough, CT
Call Us Today! 860-295-9350
www.medicareinfo-ct.com
• Ask about Stand-alone Dental •

Chanukah Open House & Menorah Exhibit

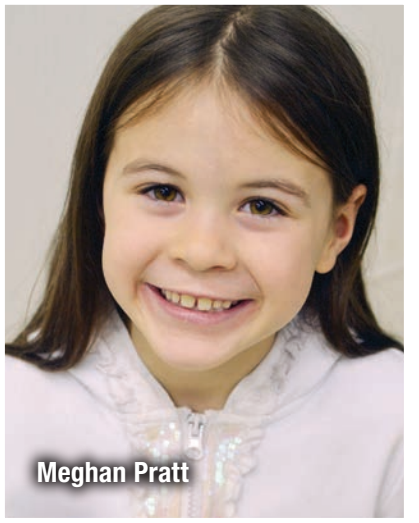
December 28th & 29th from 2-6 pm

Please join us at Hoffman SummerWood Community, a national award-winning senior living community offering fine kosher dining and a wealth of other amenities.

For more information please contact Valerie at 860.523.3808 or vbartos@hoffmansummerwood.org

Hoffman SummerWood Community
A Member of the Hebrew HealthCare Family
160 Simsbury Road, West Hartford www.hoffmansummerwood.org

People Notes



Courtesy photos

Catherine Egan, a health and physical education teacher at Glastonbury High School since 2006, has received the Educator of the Year award for 2017 from the K-12 Connecticut Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. She also received the 2017 SHAPE American Eastern District Teacher of the Year award.

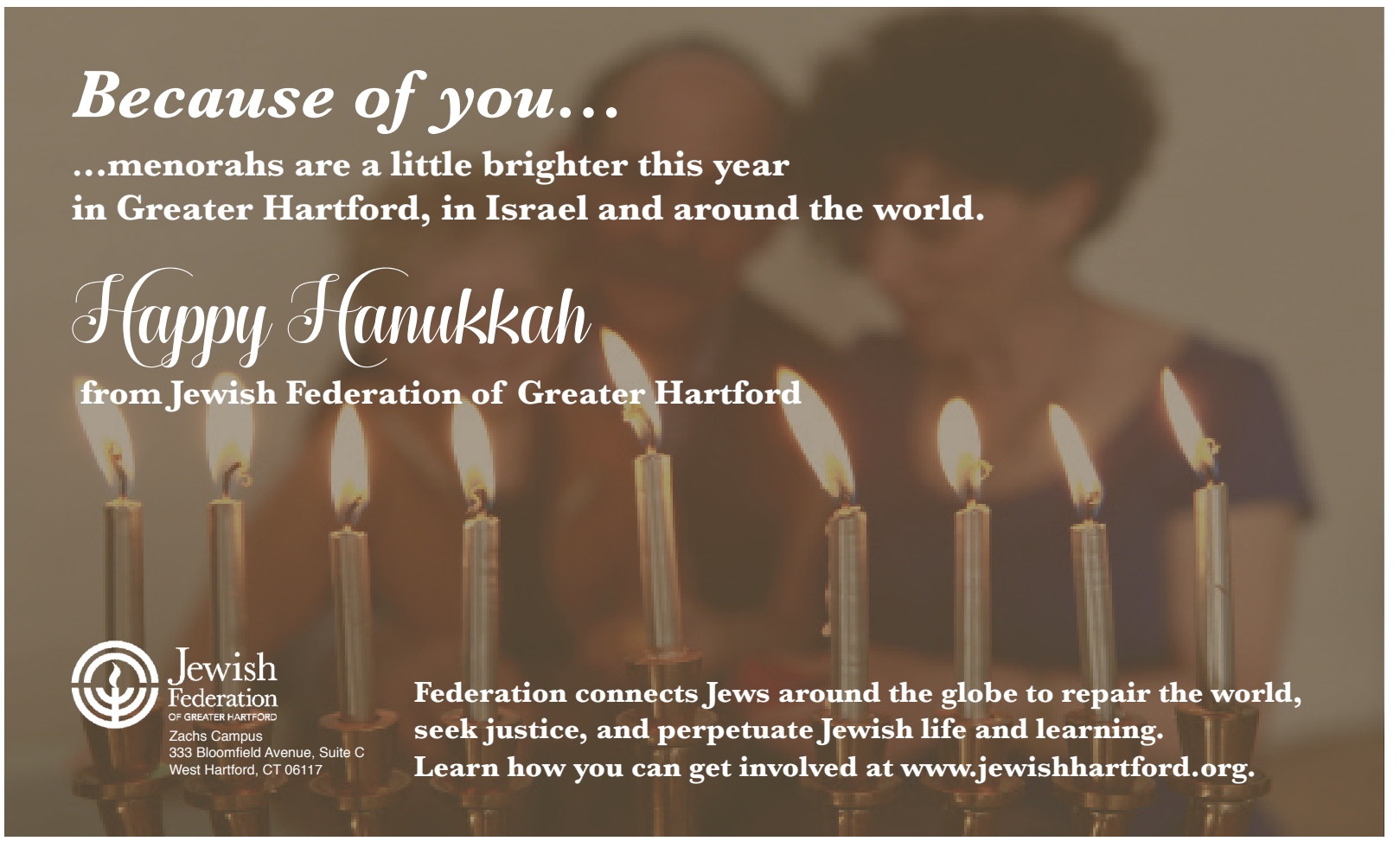
Meghan Pratt and **Sage Ford** appeared in the Newington Children's Theatre Company's production of The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. Meghan last appeared in the group's Act Out production of Rapunzel, and Sage most recently appeared in Shrek Jr.

Vergil T. Decker received a Master of Business Administration from Western New England University this fall.

Mary A. Ives, a life-long Glastonbury resident, has been hired as sales manager for the bank's South Glastonbury branch at 902 Main St. In addition to her role at United Bank, she is active in town as a volunteer and catechist at St. Paul Church. To contact her, call 860-291-3717 or send an email to mives@bankunited.com.

Yvette Melendez, former vice president of government and community alliances for Hartford Hospital and now retired, was honored by the Girl Scouts of Connecticut at the 20th Annual Breakfast Badge with a special badge for her community work. Melendez has over 30 more than 20 years of experience in education, human services and public health policy. She is currently the board chair of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and vice-chair of the Connecticut State Board of Regents for Higher Education and serves as a director on the board of the Wadsworth Atheneum. **GL**

READ
LIFE
ONLINE AT
www.TurleyCT.com
TurleyCT
COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS


Because of you…
…menorahs are a little brighter this year
in Greater Hartford, in Israel and around the world.
Happy Hanukkah
from Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford
Jewish
Federation
OF GREATER HARTFORD
Zachs Campus
333 Bloomfield Avenue, Suite C
West Hartford, CT 06117
Federation connects Jews around the globe to repair the world,
seek justice, and perpetuate Jewish life and learning.
Learn how you can get involved at www.jewishhartford.org.

Business Notes

Margaret Wilcox of William Raveis real estate met **Jonathan and Drew Scott, known as The Property Brothers,** during a conference of the National Association of Realtors in Orlando. Wilcox met the popular HGTV stars while playing "Agent Feud," a take-off on "Family Feud" hosted by the Scott brothers and sponsored by Welles Fargo Bank.

Allegra Anderson has opened a photography studio at 891 Main Street in South Glastonbury. Anderson, who lives in South Glastonbury, is an Emmy award-winning photographer whose career began on the PBS show, "This Old House." To learn more, call her at 860-266-5756 or send an email to allegra@allegraanderson.com.

Salmon Brook Nursing & Rehabilitation Center has opened a new physical, occupational and speech therapy wing at their facility at 72 Salmon Brook Drive. The center provides extended-stay nursing care to seniors with varying levels of disabilities. For more information, contact Patrick Neagle at patrick.neagle@genesishcc.com.

Empowered Indoor Cycling Studio is opening this month. The studio was founded by Jocelyn DeMaio, a cycling and fitness instructor for the past 16 years, and Neil Parisi, a software engineer. They will offer a pay-as-you-go series and class times from very early in the morning through evening with an online reservation system. Empowered Indoor Cycling Studio is at 345 New London Turnpike, Suite 1A. To learn more, visit empowered-studio.com.

Margaret Wilcox and The Property Brothers

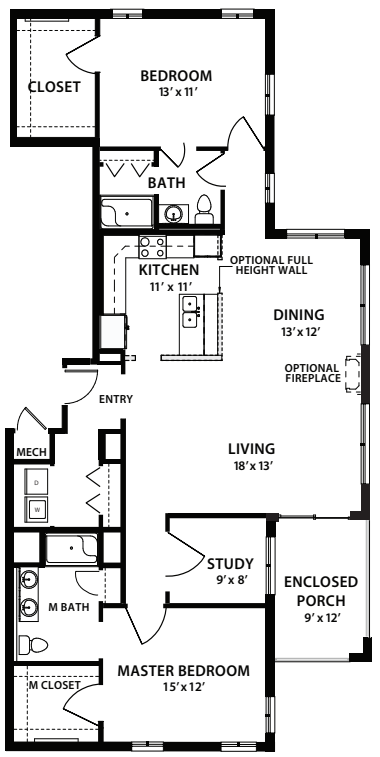
Courtesy photos

Local offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage will be collecting toys for We Are the Children, a non-profit organization established 31 years ago by radio personality Gary Craig. Donations of new, unwrapped toys will be accepted at the bank's Glastonbury office at 119 Hebron Avenue through December 18, as well as at other offices in the area.

Myth: Retirement Communities = One Room Living

Not always! At Duncaster you enjoy all the comforts of home — your home, designed and appointed to your taste and style. Choose the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, or whether to include a home office. Whatever shape or size you select, you'll enjoy the view from your own balcony or patio. And it's all awaiting your distinctive personal touch. So, start picking paint colors. Because where you live should be as unique as you are.

Ask about individual garages.



860-380-5124

Call to schedule your complimentary lunch and tour.

Duncaster
Boutique Community Living

40 Loeffler Road, Bloomfield, CT | Duncaster.org

Moving out of your P.O

We have plenty of room

Come to The UPS Store® and get a mailbox
great features and more:

• We sign for packages and mail from an

Salmon Brook Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

The local Firehouse Subs restaurant

Courtesy photos

The local Firehouse Subs restaurant has donated $46,520 worth of extrication equipment to the Glastonbury Fire department. The two battery-operated devices will replace outdated tools and improve the department's ability to rescue victims in motor vehicle accidents. Jeff Finnerty, who owns the local franchise with his wife, Jennifer, said money for the equipment came from the restaurant and its patrons, who contribute by rounding up the price, contributing to special canisters on register counters or buying leftover five-gallon pickle buckets for a $2 donation to the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. Fire Chief Michael Thurz thanked the Finnertys and said he hopes to replace all the department's extrication tools with the new battery-operated devices. **GL**

Getting Married?

Let us know!

LIFE is interested in publishing engagement and wedding announcements.
Send them to LIFE Editor
at 540 Hopmeadow Street,
Simsbury, CT 06070
or e-mail aalbair@turleyct.com.
There is no charge.

Happy Holidays

Sara W. Felter
GRI, CRS
(860) 573-8008
sara.felter@cbmoves.com
www.sarafelter.com
30+ Years of Honesty, Integrity & Service
COLDWELL BANKER
1331 Silas Deane Hwy.
Wethersfield

Turnpike Motors 860-666-3319
Autobody — 2550 Berlin Turnpike • Newington, CT

Read all our publications online at TurleyCT.com

Are you a menthol smoker?

You may be eligible for a research study looking at the effect of nicotine and menthol on smoking behavior.

You may be eligible if you:

- Are age 18 – 45
- Currently smoke at least **5** menthol cigarettes daily for the last year
- Do not intend to quit smoking within the next 6 weeks.

If you take part in the study, you will be asked to:

- Switch to one of these types of cigarettes for 6 weeks:
  1) Low nicotine, no menthol cigarette
  2) Low nicotine + menthol cigarette
  3) Regular nicotine, no menthol cigarettes
  4) Your own brand of cigarettes (only women may be eligible for this group)

You may receive:

- A supply of study cigarettes for 6 weeks
- Financial compensation up to $220 for men and $276 for women

For more information, please call:
Hartford Hospital: (860) 972-2399
UCONN Health: (860) 679-1751

Hartford Hospital
A Hartford HealthCare Partner

UCONN HEALTH

HOLIDAY TABLE from on page 22

Focusing on the positive attributes of those around us also can be helpful, rather than isolating one aspect such as who someone voted for in the recent election. Cabana has chosen to put that into practice, remembering what she is thankful for and loves about people dear to her.

"I will focus on the kindness and generous natures of the people in my family who voted for Trump [and] remember that our relationship is much more than this issue," she explained. "I truly believe the way we are going to heal from this is to connect with one another on a heart-to-heart level and not an intellectual head level. I was meeting with my spiritual director last week and she said she had read an article about this by a therapist who said that having people talk about, not their like or dislike of one candidate or the other, but the heart reason, the personal reason, they voted the way they did helps us get to that heart-to-heart place. So she used the example of two people in the same church who were bitterly fighting over the legalization of marijuana. They had this kind of conversation on why they each felt so strongly about their position. The one who was opposed spoke of having a brother who was a drug addict who tore his family apart who started as a teenager smoking pot and drinking. The other who was in favor spoke of having a wife who had a debilitating illness who only found relief from using marijuana. Even though they still disagreed, they understood each other's position and respected each other."

Beyond red or blue, focusing on the heart will keep the holidays from getting heated.

"Putting our issues aside for a special holiday gathering is not ignoring what's important to us. It is celebrating tradition and togetherness," Di Mauro said. "We all need our voices heard, but we can't hear it over the laughter and joy of good food, good company, and good storytelling; so, save it for another time." GL

ProHealth PHYSICIANS pediatrics

Stephanie Belanger, APRN • Steven Craig, MD • Margaret Kloby, MD • Patricia Bouwer, APRN • Cecille Freilich, MD • Joy Hong, MD

Welcoming New Patients

Somerset Pediatrics in Glastonbury is part of the ProHealth Physicians family, providing excellent care and service to children and adolescents.

Our philosophy is to deliver personal, up-to-date medical care and preventive health guidelines to families. We enjoy teaching parents and sharing updated information according to the guidelines of The American Academy of Pediatrics. As primary care physicians, we should be your first resource in pursuing your child's medical and mental health care needs.

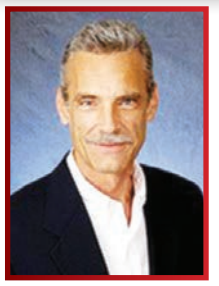
We use new technologies to provide high-quality primary care with a patient-centered focus.

- Secure electronic health records
- *my*ProHealth patient portal—view your medical records online (*and more!*)

To schedule your first visit, call toll-free: 1-855-CTMD-411
Somerset Pediatrics • 290 Western Boulevard, Glastonbury • 860-652-3325

ProHealthMD.com/SomersetPediatrics

The Gritter Firm, LLC
Comprehensive Business Counsel
www.gritterfirm.com



Jerry Gritter
gritterpa@gmail.com
(561) 391-8899

Business Formation
Contract Drafting and Review
Corporate Finance
Real Estate

Ryan Gritter
ryan@gritterfirm.com
(860) 266-6048

"I am an entrepreneur with a new business who was looking for an attorney who could both provide immediate assistance and become a long-term trusted advisor... Attorney Gritter accommodated my schedule to take a meeting, attentively listened to and addressed my concerns, and returned deliverables as promised. I was impressed with the quality of his work as well as his willingness to answer my questions in an efficient and timely manner." — Lauryn, from Glastonbury

The Gritter Firm provides counsel to businesses at all stages, working with clients in all aspects of their businesses, including corporate governance, entity selection, business structuring, business and tax planning, finance and securities, mergers and acquisitions, and any other issues that may arise. Our attorneys can assist you in structuring and negotiating business agreements, drafting and review of contracts, and ensuring proper documentation and regulatory compliance throughout all of your business' transactions.

437 Naubuc Ave., Suite 107, Glastonbury, CT 06033
(860) 266-6048

Helping students with special needs

Two programs housed in one building

by Nancy Thompson
Editor

Students in the local LINKS program work on a science project with their teacher.

The structure is smaller than most in the area, unassuming brick with a small sign for the Glastonbury Board of Education. There's no way of knowing that it houses two very important programs for students with special needs. One is the LINKS Academy, its acronym standing for Learning Information and Necessary Knowledge for Success, and the other is the town's post-grad program, which teaches vital life and vocational skills to students who have completed high school but have not earned a diploma.

Sending students with special needs to private special education schools can be disruptive and expensive. These days, the LINKS Academy provides an alternative and keep many students who might otherwise have been placed elsewhere in town.

Under federal law, students with special needs – behavioral, social, emotional and academic – must be taught in what is known as "the least restrictive environment." For some students, that means staying in a regular classroom, possibly with the help of a

FUSION SUSHI • HIBACHI • OPEN LUNCH & DINNER • TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE

· Enjoy gourmet Japanese cuisine where chefs prepare fusion sushi at your table.

· Hibachi area seats 18 to a table. · Check out our martini menu.

· Happy Hour everyday 4pm - 6:30pm with Drink Specials

120 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury • 860-430-5600

$5.95*/day
$35.70*/week
Self-Park

GALAXY SELF PARK

- Dead battery assistance at no charge
- Shuttle picks you up right at your car
- Park your car & keep your keys
- 24-hour shuttle to/from terminal
- Security Patrol On-Site

*Sales tax, airport access fee and fuel surcharge additional

(860) 627-4931
www.galaxyselfpark.com
One minute away from Bradley

EDUCATION

"They prepare for jobs, and post-secondary education, and living independently in the community."
–Anita Russell

paraprofessional and other services. Some students have a special education homeroom but spend part of the school day in regular classes. For others, students with more serious issues, placement in an out-of-district private special education school has always been an option.

Some students with special needs are still placed elsewhere, but the LINKS Academy allows the district to meet the needs of many of those students locally.

"We're always looking at a continuum, at that 'least restrictive environment'," said Anita Russell, administrator of pupil services for Glastonbury Public Schools. "Some students might have anxiety and benefit from a smaller class size."

The LINKS Academy provides those smaller classes and also helps in many other ways. "Some students require a social worker or a part-time school psychologist. Our team is right there to help, so our support is more readily available," said Kate Johns-Galvin, the special education supervisor. She said the program also uses paraprofessionals and tutors and typically has two or three adults in every classroom.

The decision to move a child from his or her home school to the LINKS program is not made lightly. "The home school teams typically are reluctant to move them," Johns-Galvin said.

Russell agreed. "We have a real commitment to keeping kids in their home schools," she said. "They go to their home kindergarten, and then anywhere between kindergarten and Grade 12, if we've tried everything in their home school, they go to the LINKS Academy."

Often, students who have been moved to the LINKS Academy are able to return to their home schools for at least part of the day. "Because it's a therapeutic, intermediary place, many of the kids spend part of the day at their home school," Johns-Galvin said. "This is not a forever place. The home school and LINKS work together. Some of the kids start with one class a week. That transition has been very successful. They learn skills and strategies here and carry them back to their home classrooms." She predicted that a couple of the 26 students in the program will be back at their home schools by the end of this year.

The LINKS Academy shares space with the district's post-graduate program, which complies with a federal law requiring school systems to educate special-needs students from the age of 3 to 21. Students there, all of whom have finished their high school course work but have not yet earned a diploma, learn necessary life skills and get work experience in a variety of settings around town.

Russell said the program includes classroom instruction and internships at local businesses, along with training in useful skills such as using public transportation, grocery shopping, menu planning and cooking.

"They prepare for jobs, and post-secondary education, and living independently in the community," Russell said. "We're in the business of preparing for the future."

The program is open to students who require additional instructions for those three goals.

The program's internships give students a chance to learn new skills and also to make connections in the business community. Among the local businesses that hire the post-grad students are Chili's, Glastonbury Health Care, Walgreens, as well as Highland Park Market, The Hearth at Glastonbury, and Kol Haverim.

Kol Haverim is using two students from the post-grad program once a week for the second year. Among other jobs last year they checked an old database against a new one, made corrections and entered notes to help Chris Bausmith, the office manager, with the transition. This year, the students have worked in the preschool cataloging books and making an inventory of supplies and games. Additional students help when the congregation plans a large dinner.

"This has been a win-win arrangement," Bausmith said. "We have thoroughly benefited from what the students have to offer and they have learned a lot from us. Their supervisor, Allison Kaufman, happens to be a member here. She guides them and encourages them. They are extremely friendly and have a good time with each other and being here. It has been a

TurleyCT Community Publications
Life Publications The Valley Press The West Hartford Press
To advertise call 860-651-4700 • TurleyCT.com

EDUCATION

pleasure having them on our team."

The Hearth at Glastonbury is working with students in the post-grad program for the third year.

"Initially we had two students intern in our environmental services department learning janitorial and housekeeping tasks," said Anthony Varesio, the facility director. "The program was such a success that we introduced additional post-grad students into our dietary and activities departments the following year. Students interning in our dietary services help with food prep, pantry, and sanitation; activities interns assisted with programs, events and resident socialization."

He said he was introduced to the post-grad program about five years when he was working at a different place. He was impressed immediately.

"The students I have had the pleasure to work with not only bring some very tangible assistance, but each one has brought a special light into each of our work days. I can't say I have had a 'favorite' student because each student, in their own way, has found a special place in my heart. The post-grad program truly fills a void for both the students and employers alike. The students have the opportunity to develop practical and relevant skills for the workplace and the business at large has the opportunity to embrace a very unique and special part of the community they operate in; truly a symbiotic relationship. I would encourage any employer to consider the post-grad program; it wouldn't be long before you realized that these 'special needs' students were actually a 'special opportunity'."

Lori Cummiskey, front-end manager at the local Highland Park Market, said the store has been working with the post-grad program for 20 years.

"It has been such a rewarding relationship," she said. "We may be helping the post-grad students, but they are giving so much back to us as well. We still employ our original post grad student from 20 years ago, and she is such an integral part of our daily routine, we would be lost without her."

She said she and others at the store have been impressed with the students, each of whom come with their own strengths and personalities.

"It is the best feeling in the world when you see how the student began their work experience with us, to how they end when they move on to a different chapter," she said. "They leave more self-confident, they leave with more friends than they had when they began. They become a part of our family that we really miss when they leave. They are here most importantly to bag groceries for our customers and carry them out to their cars. This is a very important position, because they are the last face of Highland Park Market that the customers envisions. If there is down time in between customers, we will usually talk about life and get silly for a few minutes, but when it gets time to get back to business, they get in work mode and work very hard to make our customers happy."

"The students I have had the pleasure to work with not only bring some very tangible assistance, but each one has brought a special light into each of our work days."

–Lori Cummiskey

Cummiskey said working with the post-grad students has made her live more enjoyable. "They bring a joyfulness with them that warms my heart, a sense of humor that is contagious," she said. "We are so very lucky to be a part of this program. I think everyone deserves a chance at finding their strengths, and this is a great stepping stone to do so. I hope this programs continues for many more years to come." GL

Montessori School *of Greater Hartford*

FAMILY WORKSHOPS:

PARENT/INFANT CLASS
Wednesdays:
9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
(January 18th, January 25th, February 1st, February 8th, February 15th.)

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT
Saturdays:
9:00 to 10:00a.m.
(March 18th, April 1st, April 8th, April 15th, April 22nd.)

Fee: $100.00 per 5-week course. To register or for more information, please call 860-236-4565.

Enriching Childhood and Strengthening Families

141 North Main St, West Hartford, CT
860.236.4565| msgh.org | Est. 1964
Recognized by AMI. Accredited by CAIS.

TOTALLY.
Ready. Committed. Transformative.

A college preparatory co-ed day school
Grades 6 -12

Applications due:
February 1, 2017

Applications received after February 1 will be considered on a rolling admissions basis.

Apply by February 1 for merit scholarship consideration.

KINGSWOOD OXFORD
170 Kingswood Road
West Hartford, CT 06119-1430
T 860.727.5000
www.kingswoodoxford.org

Slice of LIFE

photos by Brian Ambrose

1

2

3

4

Riverfront Community Center Annual Art Show

Artists and those who appreciate their work gathered at the Riverfront Community Center for the annual art show sponsored by Glastonbury Arts. **1.** Lynn Banis and her mom, Helen, enjoy the art. **2.** Guests enjoy the art show. **3.** Artist Cheryl Davis works on one of her paintings. **4.** Robert Crawford sets up his images for the show. **5.**Jane Zisk, founder of CT Plein Air Painters Society, there. **6.** Ken Dorros makes his painting picture perfect. **7.** Barbara Jenkins places final touches on her artwork. **8.** Stephen Linde straightens one of his paintings. **9.** Dave Boilard take a closer look at a painting. **10.** Julia White helps hang one of her mom's favorite pieces. **11.** Diane Pawlina and Kathy Rutledge take a moment to look at some unique pieces of art. **12.** Julie Vaughn and Alex Wells admire some of the artwork. **13.** Connie McCartney takes time to enjoy the beautiful pieces of art. **14.** Elaine DeFrancesco enjoying her afternoon.

5

6

7

8

9

10

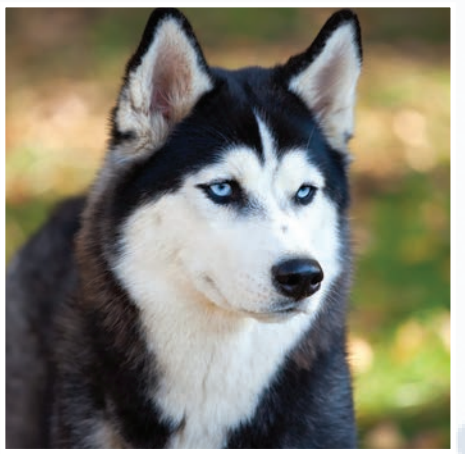
11

12

13

14

PETS



Pet Resort, Hotel & Spa

CANDLEWICK KENNELS

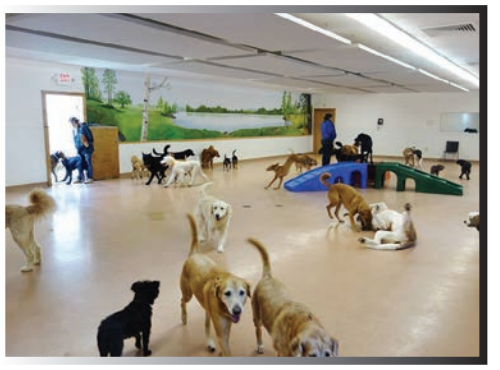
Since 1976

LODGING

- Safe, Clean & Comfortable Environment
- Inside Suites with Outside Patio
- Trail-Walk and Courtyard Activities
- Daycare Available while Lodging
- Feline Condos & Apartments, too!

GROOMING

- Grooming Staff with over 40+ years exp.
- Groomer-Client Consultations
- Daily Appointments
- Experienced with All Breeds



DAYCARE

- All Day Fun & Exercise with Friends
- 8,700 Square Feet of Play Area
- Outdoor Areas are Astro Turf for Your Dog's Safety, Health & Cleanliness
- Indoor & Outdoor Areas
- Free Evaluation Day!

Our Entire Facility Is Heated & Air Conditioned

Walk-in Tours Anytime

Mon-Fri 7am-7pm • Sat 8am-6pm • Sun 12pm-5pm

LIKE US ON facebook www.CandlewickKennels.com

2811 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, CT • 860-633-6878

BEAVER BROOK ANIMAL HOSPITAL

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Fear Free Veterinary Care *including* Boarding & Grooming Cat Friendly Practice

FEAR FREE CERTIFIED

OPEN 7 DAYS

See our website for details www.beaverbrookah.com

60 Beaver Road • Wethersfield • 860-757-3346

FRANKLIN Painting LLC

Interior & Exterior Residential Specialists

"Check" us out:

✓ *On time, courteous professionals*
✓ *Written satisfaction guarantee*
✓ *Call for a quote today!*
✓ *Staff Color Consultant on call*
✓ *Get Peace of Mind & A New Look*
✓ *No Hassles or Headaches*

877-646-7774

Family owned & operated showroom & workroom since 1929
EHRLICH DECORATING & UPHOLSTERY LLC

REUPHOLSTER a SOFA or 2 CHAIRS for $529*
*Plus cost of our fabric

10% OFF ALL FABRICS
*Previous orders do not apply. Must present coupon at time of order.

Old Lyme 860-434-4242 | Hartford 860-244-3475 | Toll Free 877-688-3475

Call today to schedule your FREE in home consultation!

*Previous orders do not apply. Only applies with purchase of our fabric. Additional Labor Charges May Apply.
Showroom & Workroom - 3324 Main Street, Hartford, CT
www.ehrlichdecorating.com

Not Affiliated With Ehrlich Interiors in Farmington

ANDY WOTTON PLUMBING & HEATING, LLC
(860) 833-8153

Old fashion, honest, reliable service at a reasonable price. All residential plumbing, repairs done from leaky faucets to oil/gas heat conversions.
Call today and we will show you quality still makes a difference!

HOME & GARDEN

S.K. LAVERY APPLIANCE COMPANY

Glastonbury's most complete appliance center!

We will match any competitor's price!

Let S.K. Lavery Appliance Company provide you with the professional service you expect and deserve, as we've been providing for over 86 yrs.

GLASTONBURY • 97 New London Tpke. 860.633.1065 | WEST HARTFORD • 1003 Farmington Ave. 860.523.5271 | NORTH HAVEN • 370 Sackett Point Road 203.288.7727

Visit us on the web at www.sklaveryappliance.com

Everything for Your Home

Complete Residential & Commercial Property Management

WINNER! BEST OF Hartford MAGAZINE 2010 2011 2012 2013 2015 2016

Free Estimates, No Pressure

THE MAGEE COMPANIES
Remodeling Contractors
Property Managers
Professionalism Since 1972

Licensed: CT -HIC. 0510051 • CT-CAM.0000680 • Fully Bonded & Insured • In-House Employees

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

860-953-2200
7 CODY STREET • WEST HARTFORD, CT
MageeCompanies.com

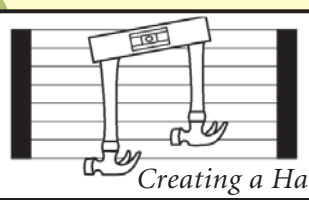
A trusted, creative, and experienced design/build team

PLAIN & FANCY CUSTOM CABINETRY
25 Years ultracraft® cabinets for life
Please follow us on Best of houzz 2015 SERVICE and Like Us on facebook

CHRISTINO
KITCHENS & REMODELING

Visit our new showroom with the latest styles, colors & products for your kitchen and bath.

730 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury • 860-430-2661 • www.christinokitchens.com



HARMONY
Home Improvement

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE

Creating a Harmony customer, contractor & community

ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS & more...

CALL NOW for our SPRING ROOFING SALE

CALL NOW for a FREE upgrade to lifetime shingles with this ad only

860-645-8899

lic. #604200/ Fully Insured/Free Estimates

Factory Certified with GAF CertainTeed

022411

We wish you good health and happiness in the coming year.
Thank you for your continued support and business.

- The General Landscaping Team

Big enough to be professional, Small enough to be personal

General Landscaping, LLC

860-659-5757

www.generallandscaping.com
Member of BBB • CT Lic # 555660

BY MARK DIXON
WFSB METEOROLOGIST [AMS]

Ceiling Fans, Winter Use...

Typically one thinks of using a ceiling fan in the warmer months, as it creates a wind 'chill' effect – making it feel cooler in your home. This happens when the blades are traveling in a counter-clockwise direction. By using a fan in this manner, it helps save energy and money since you're able to raise the thermostat setting.

So clearly they are beneficial during the summer, but are you getting the most out of your ceiling fan during the winter months? Instead of letting them collect dust, put them to use!

Now regardless of season, warm air rises ... collecting near the ceiling. So when paying to heat your home, why not get that warm air back down closer to where we live? For the best efficiency when it's cold outside, the blades should travel in a clockwise direction (stand beneath the fan or lie on your bed and look up to determine which way they are spinning). Making this change re-circulates the warm air by creating an updraft, pushing it down the walls and back into the room at the same time. This happens without creating a cooling effect.

So if you don't have a ceiling fan, perhaps consider getting one... the energy savings can be significant, year-round. **GL**

Read all our publications online at TurleyCT.com

Wishing You Health & Happiness in 2017!

MARGARET 860-916-3517

Homes at Pine Ridge

New Construction
Starting at $629,900

32 JONATHAN TRAIL
Glastonbury, $698,900
New Construction in Glastonbury at unbeatable price. Many upgrades throughout in this custom colonial build. 4 beds; 3.1 baths; 3435 sq. ft.

59 KONGSCUT VALLEY TRAIL
Glastonbury, $629,900
Jacques & Son new construction, in an established enclave of fine homes. Multiple plans & lots to choose from. 4 beds; 3.1 baths; 2548 sq. ft.

125 JONATHAN TRAIL
Glastonbury, $669,900
To Be Built: Life isn't an upgrade here at The Homes at Pine Ridge! Visit homesatpiner-idge.com for more info. 4 beds; 4 baths; 2806 sq. ft.

147 RIVERVIEW ROAD
Glastonbury, $849,900
Custom home in the sought after Red Hill neighborhood; CT River views; extensive millwork; 1st floor master suite. 4 beds; 3.1 baths; 4235 sq. ft.

103 CIDER MILL ROAD
Glastonbury, $389,900
Classic & beautiful colonial in the Apple Hill Neighborhood; formal living & dining space, plus a great room and finished walk-out lower level. 3 beds; 3.1 baths; 2833 sq. ft.

17 Kettle Pond Drive
S. Glastonbury, $549,900
Custom Great Pond home, featuring an entertaining floor plan, with sunroom & in-ground pool; 1.06 acres. 5beds; 2.1 baths; 3561 sq. ft.

54 KINGSWOOD DRIVE
S. Glastonbury, $999,999
Truly custom South Glastonbury Estate. Very flexible floor plan, spanning 4 full floors. In-law/au-pair suite on 1st flr plus 4th floor media room w/ 6th bed possibility. 5 beds; 4.3 baths; 7267 sq. ft

6 RUSSET ROAD
Glastonbury, $312,000
Apple Hill Colonial with lots of possibility. Updated eat-in kitchen, formal living & dining room plus a walk-out finished lower level. 4 beds; 2.1 baths; 2085 sq. ft.

190 DAYTON ROAD
S. Glastonbury, $379,900
Private home with 4 acres, 3 car garage, and a fully finished walk-out lower level with kitchen, living & dining room, bathroom and bedroom. 4 beds; 3.1 baths; 3355 sq. ft.

27 LAZY VALLEY
Glastonbury, $649,900
Quality built home, in a private enclave of beautiful homes. Fully finished lower-level, plus a finished bonus room & first floor office! 5 beds; 3.1 baths; 4116 sq. ft.

1378 MAIN STREET
Glastonbury, $339,800
The Historic Ebenezer Hale house, just minutes to South Glastonbury center. 3 floors of living; updated kitchen and baths. 4 beds; 2.1 baths; 2850 sq. ft.

146 CONESTOGA WAY
Glastonbury, $179,900
Clean & spacious town-home featuring formal dining & living rooms plus a fully finished lower level with full bath. 3 beds; 3.1 baths; 1428 sq. ft.

322 CAVAN LANE
Glastonbury, $267,500
Renovated kitchen & baths w/granite counters. Hardwood floors throughout main level; 1st floor office. 2 beds; 2.1 baths; 1450 sq. ft.

62 KINGSBURY LANE
Glastonbury, $219,900
Completely renovated Cape Cod: New kitchen with stainless steel & granite; new hard-wood floors throughout; gas heat, public water/sewer. 4 beds; 2 baths; 1414 sq. ft.

75 SACHEM DRIVE
Glastonbury, $500,000
A truly beautiful home in cul-de-sac, featuring an open floor plan, lots of natural light & first floor master suite. 4 beds; 2.1 baths; 3149 sq. ft.

54 HOLLISTER WAY
Glastonbury, $170,000
Newly available unit at Meadow Hill; eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, large living room & private covered garage. 2 beds; 2.1 baths; 1406 sq. ft.

113 COLTON ROAD
Glastonbury, $750,000
Flexible floor plan features 1st floor bedroom w/office & full bath; along with an in-law/au-pair option in fully finished walk-out lower level. 5 beds; 5.1 baths; 5758 sq. ft.

27 LAZY VALLEY ROAD
Glastonbury, $649,900
Beautifully maintained, inviting & flexible floor plan in this custom colonial, set in a pri-vate enclave of homes; fully finished lower level. 5 beds; 3.1 baths; 4116 sq. ft.

18 MENLO PLACE
Glastonbury, $535,900
Last available new home at East Carriage Drive. Stainless kitchen w/ granite; hardwood floors & tiled baths; soaring great room w/ fireplace. 55+ Active Adult. 3 beds; 2 baths; 1967 sq. ft.

55 MARLBOROUGH DRIVE
Glastonbury, $439,900
Custom home situated in a sought after neighborhood of exquisite homes; flowing floor plan spanning 4 floors of living space; finished walk-out lower level for poss. 5th bed. 4 beds; 3.1 baths; 3654 sq. ft.

4 ADENA'S WALK
Glastonbury, $464,810
Currently under-construction with quick delivery available at 55+ Active Adult community. Multiple sites and models to choose from, along with many upgrades available. 3 beds; 2.1 baths; 2266 sq. ft.

80 GRANDVIEW DRIVE
Glastonbury, $398,000
Grand contemporary with soaring spaces and entertaining areas in a well-established neighborhood of other fine homes. Fully finished walk out lower level. 4 beds; 3.1 baths; 3959 sq. ft.

4 STRATFORD ROAD
Farmington, $599,999
Custom Devonwood home w/ new kitchen, updated baths, finished lower level, 1st flr bedroom/office, sunroom & outdoor kitchen w/ pool. Oversized master suite. 4beds; 2.1 baths; 4818 sq. ft.

23 CHATHAM WOODS COURT
Cheshire, $489,000
Private, cul-de-sac location for this meticulously maintained cape style home boasting an in-ground pool, 1st flr master suite & fully finished walk-out lower level. 5 beds; 3.1 baths; 3755 sq. ft.

162 RIDGE ROAD
Glasstonbury, $599,900
Nestled atop a private enclave of fine homes & estates, this home hosts a first floor bedroom and full bath, oversized master suite & fully finished walk-out lower level with second full kitchen and dining room. 5 beds; 5.0 baths; 4795 sq. ft.

113 MIDDLE HADDAM ROAD
Portland, $550,000
True majesty and privacy nestled into 34 acres in Portland. Sprawling home, with many amenities to offer up. Possibility for subdivide too. 5 beds; 6 baths; 4412 sq. ft.

76 SPELLMAN POINT ROAD
East Hampton, $619,900
Meticulous renovations top to bottom on this lake front home on desirable Spellman Point. 3 beds; 2.1 baths; 2438 sq. ft.

348 NEIPSIC ROAD
Glastonbury, $265,000
Warm & inviting ranch with open floorpan, hardwood floors, level backyard & a finished lower level. 3 beds; 1.0 bath; 1452 sq. ft.

Glastonbury Lots & Land
150 Ash Swamp Rd., 36.2 acres **$500,000**
582 Main St., 6.62 acres **$175,000**
107 Matson Hill Rd., 1 acre **$69,900**
HEBRON 231 West St., 30+ acres **$389,000**

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE